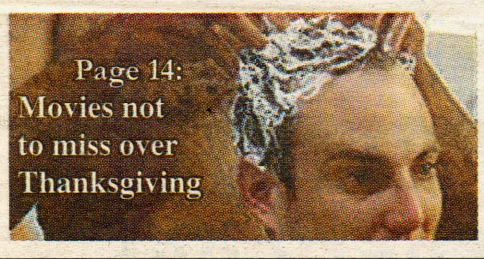
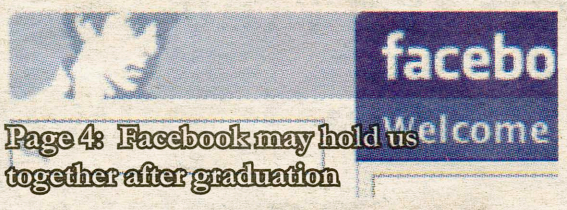
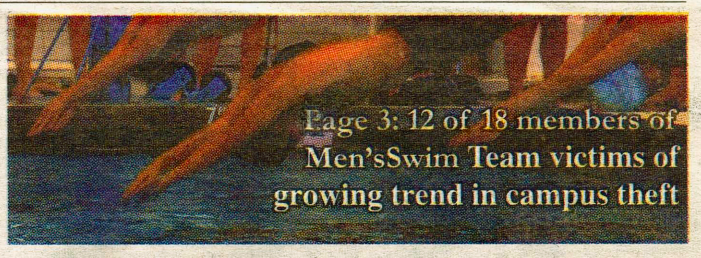


Page 14: Movies not to miss over Thanksgiving



Page 4: Facebook may hold us together after graduation



Page 3: 12 of 18 members of Men'sSwim Team victims of growing trend in campus theft

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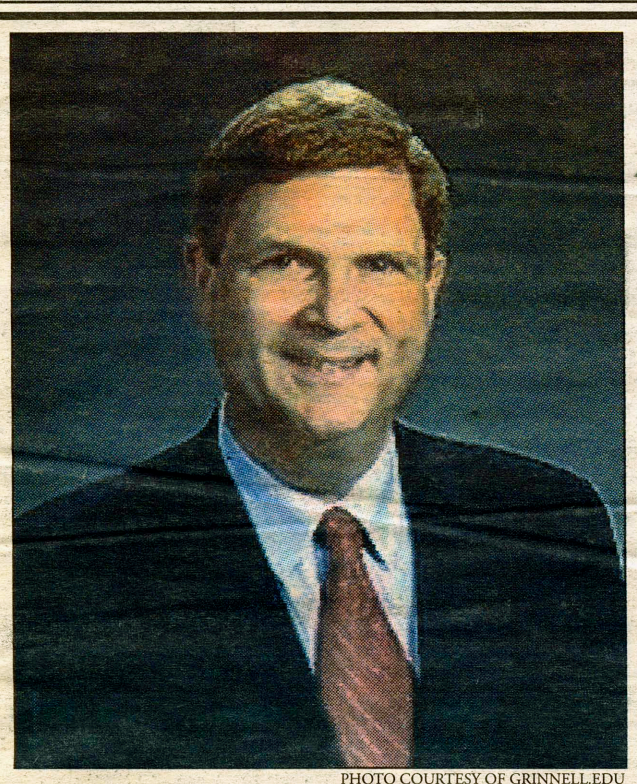

PHOTO COURTESY OF GRINNELL.EDU

Tom Vilsack '72, outgowing Iowa Governor.

TOM VILSACK: Hamilton graduate running for President

by Pat Hodgens '09
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Hamilton College alumnus Tom Vilsack '72 announced his candidacy for the presidency on November 9. Vilsack, a two-term governor of Iowa, is seeking the Democratic nomination.

"I made the decision to run for president because I believe that this is a great nation, and as a great nation we have responsibilities to the people of our country," he said, as quoted on his website. "I also believe America has to exercise moral leadership around the world."

If Vilsack were to win, he would be the highest ranking Hamilton alumni in government history, topping James S. Sherman, vice president under William Howard Taft.

Vilsack, a history major at Hamilton, started his political career as a mayor before being elected to the Iowa State Senate. Then, in 1998, ran for governor, winning and becoming the state's first Democratic governor in over 30 years.

"It definitely changes the race for everyone in the sense that the Iowa caucuses are …a key early task. With him in, it becomes a race for second," said Prof. Mariani, visiting assistant professor of government. "Whether he has a chance, I don't know."

Mariani, who has been involved in politics both on the professional and academic level, offered his analysis of the campaign.

"With Mark Warner [a one-time possible moderate candidate]…bowing out, it opened a door for him," said Mariani, hypothesizing that Vilsack's moderate credentials might help him in his bid for the presidency. "It's a long campaign…the electorate might decide that they want a victory more than they want ideological purity."

Vilsack, the first Democratic candidate to officially announce his candidacy, does have strong support in Iowa which, as Mariani noted, has an early say in the election due to its caucuses. In recent presidential elections, the Iowa caucuses have received a lot of media attention. Since they come before the New Hampshire primaries, they are the first official indication of support for presidential candidates.

"The big challenge for Vilsack is reaching out to voters beyond Iowa. Most Americans have never heard of him, and he is going to have to find a way for them to see connections between themselves and the governor of a small, agrarian state," said Prof. Glenn, visiting assistant professor of

see ***Vilsack****, page 2*

Conservative speaker at our liberal arts campus

by Mariam Ballout '10
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Jonah Goldberg, editor-at-large of the National Review Online spoke in the Events Barn, on November 14. After an introduction by Hamilton Republicans President Ben Noble, Goldberg stated that the recent election is not the death of American conservatism, and we are not in a new era of liberalism, even if Republicans deserved to lose. In fact, he pointed out, liberals have been announcing a new age "about once every 15 minutes for the last century." He joked that while he can't remember the last time Republicans advocated for the pedophilic IM-ing of pages, with Republicans like Mark Foley on voter's minds, corruption ranked highly in exit polls as a reason why Republicans were voted out.

Despite his support of Bush, Goldberg dislikes the term "compassionate conservative." Goldberg argued that the term slanders conservatives as if they "eat puppies or something." For the past five years people have called Bush "the red hot zealot" and said the same things that were said about Reagan, even though

see **Goldberg**, *page 3*

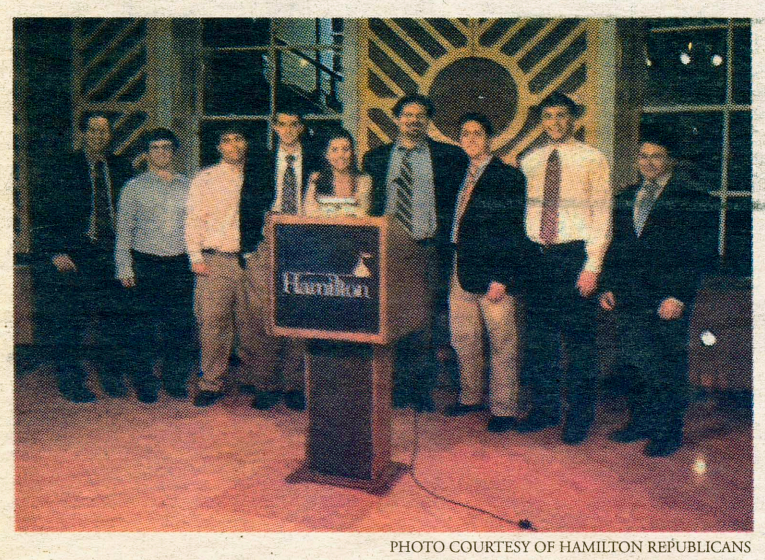

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON REPUBLICANS

Hamilton College Republicans with Jonah Goldberg.

Sports Recruiting 101: football, violins and GPAs

Reported & Written by Eric Kuhn '09
EDITOR-AT-LARGE
Reported by Pat Hodgens '09
ASSISSTANT EDITOR

This is the third and final part in a series about the athletic recruitment process at Hamilton.

"I have never had a kid in nine years not graduate," Head Men's Soccer Coach and Associate Professor of Physical Education Perry Nizzi proudly proclaimed on October 31, the day his team was ranked 20th in the country. He feels that even if he helped a student get into Hamilton, "When he gets here, he is going to help this school. Today Hamilton will be ranked in all the web sites. Now, a kid in Chicago will say, 'well Hamilton is an incredible soccer school and also an incredible academic school – I am going to look into Hamilton.'"

Basketball Coach Tobin Anderson swells with pride when talking about some of his former basketball players. "They may come from bad backgrounds and because of basketball or soccer they get into school and it changed their life."

Recruitment goes on for numerous actives on campus, but in different ways. Rob Kolb, professor ofmusic and director of Choral Music said, "We don't recruit in the same way that athletic teams do. I meet with many students when they come to visit the college. It doesn't involve seeking those students out. If a student has made an inquiry [at admissions about the choral program], we'll follow up with a letter, but they make the first step."

Heather Buchman, assistant professor of music and director of College Orchestra & Chamber

see ***Recruiting****, page 2*

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON.EDU

Vilsack seeks White House

*from **Vilsack**, page 1*

government.

"It is important to remember that the vast majority of presidents elected over the past century were governors, not senators. As executives, as opposed to legislators, governors often have an easier time pointing out accomplishments than senators do," he continued.

Vilsack is chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a group known for its moderate policies. It was led by Bill Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas.

"I think one of the messages from election night was the fact that moderate, centrist Democrats were successful in all parts of the country," Vilsack, as quoted by the *De Moines Register*, said. "And any candidate for president in the Democratic Party has to be able to talk to people from all parts of the country."

Ben Noble, president of the Hamilton Republicans and an editor at *The Spectator* said, "While I do support a Hamilton College graduate as a presidential candidate, I will not be supporting a Democratic candidate no matter how tied he is to the Hill. That said, I wish him the best of luck. I am personally in favor of Rudy Guiliani's candidacy for the Republican nomination."

Vilsack has unleashed some interesting strategies in his candidacy. He has a presence on both Facebook.com and Myspace.com, and his website prominently features videoblogs.

"Considering the fact that I started out life in an orphanage," he said in one of those videoblogs, "America's just a great country and here I have the opportunity to file papers to begin the process…to run for President of the United States."

Vilsack, born in Pittsburgh, was orphaned at birth. At Hamilton, he met his future wife Christie Bell, an Iowa native.

"For the past 8 years, I've served as the Governor of Iowa," Vilsack declares in his Facebook election profile. "In my time in office, I've strived to make Iowa a stronger community and an even better place to live, work, and raise a family."

"In 2008, we have a great opportunity to bring together our nation behind this sense of community – and I hope to have the opportunity to lead it."

Death penalty talk with Amnesty International

by Alexander Morgan '10
NEWS WRITER

Amnesty International sponsored a panel discussion entitled "Perspectives on the Death Penalty" on November 8. Professor of International Affairs Allen Cafruny, College Chaplain Jeffrey McArn, and Professor of Philosophy Richard Werner were on the panel.

"I oppose the death penalty," Cafruny said, begining the discussion. "I'm not a pacifist. I certainly understand occasions where it was used such as the Nuremburg Trials." Cafruny argued that since World War II there has been a broad movement to abolish the death penalty. Most countries had succeeded in abolishing the practice by the 1960s and the U.S. remains the only democracy in the world to still execute the guilty for their crimes.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document created by the UN to outline basic human rights, holds the death penalty to be an abridgement of human rights Cafruny said. He also indicated that that death penalty is a racial issue as well. African Americans make up 12 percent of the population and 42 percent of the inmates on death row. People have become desensitized to the death penalty and the racial issues that surround the practice.

McArn analyzed the history of the death penalty from the Christian perspective. Jesus was executed by crucifixion and early Christians were persecuted for their beliefs. Then during the period of the Spanish Inquisition Christians began persecuting non-Christians. "If you fell outside of the purity of the Christian tradition there was a belief that the best way to help you was to kill you," said McArn. "I consider this a tragic aspect of Christianity."

The opposing viewpoint in Christianity to persecution and execution of non-believers, McArn argued, is the philosophy of turning the other cheek after receiving a blow to the face. Christians on this side of the argument believe in tolerance for others beliefs and believe that execution of criminals is morally wrong. McArn said, "The death penalty indicates that reconciliation is not possible.

To Christians, a human by definition carries the image of God." Werner agreed that there are instances when he could understand the use of the death penalty. He offered consequentialist arguments that the death penalty is an effective deterrent to criminals, but that the statistical evidence does not prove that the death penalty is any kind of deterrent. Werner commented on ontological arguments for the death penalty, dating back to the eye for an eye punishments that are hundreds of years old.

"It seems barbaric, we don't rape rapists, we don't steal from thieves, so why should we kill killers," said Werner. Fairness issues are important factors in the area of capital punishment, argued Werner. The accused are discriminated against by race, income level, age and a variety of other factors that may make it more difficult for them to get a fair trial.

DNA evidence and eyewitness testimony cannot always be trusted as accurate. Werner cited a case in which a woman identified the wrong man as the guilty party. Time spent in jail cannot be easily repaid, but the execution of an innocent person can never be reversed.

Cafruny noted a few aspects of American culture he believes are unusual: "In the U.S. families and victims are brought much more into the judicial process, Americans have this need for closure not found in other countries. Sentences in the United States are also longer; the Train bombers in Madrid received ten years which would have been two life sentences here."

Werner also gave his view of the death penalty and how he would react if a death row inmate had murdered one of his family members: "If a member of my family was killed I don't think I would find any solace in seeing the murderer killed. It wouldn't bring that family member back."

Recruited students now on campus... Guess which team has the highest GPA?

*from **Recruiting**, page 1*

Music meets with prospective students who contact the music department, but also travels to conferences and music fairs to find students. She will meet with around 40 to 50 people a year interested in playing an instument at Hamilton.

She will have students send CDs and then tell admissions how good the player is. Once Admissions accepts that student, "We will do everything we can to make sure they come to Hamilton," Buchman says.

"Performing music is just another sport, but with different muscles. We've got a number of student-athletes in orchestra," Buchman says, pointing to a violinist who is a rugby player and a bassoonist who is a football player. "I think it is great that there are so many student-athletes who also play music!"

Then there is the question of how students recurited to play sports do when at Hamilton. Anderson says it is a mixed bag: "Some are doing great and some are fighting to get Cs. But by sophomore year, they get it and succeed."

Athletic Director Sue Viscomi says "the four year graduate rate is stellar among our athletes. Seniors speak very positively about their college experience" while playing on a team.

The average GPAs of all athletic teams during the spring of 2006 came to an 86.12, while the average GPA for the entire student body came was 87.41. The Cross Country team had the highest GPA for all male athletic teams with an 87.75 and the Men's Lacrosse team had the lowest GPA with 83.47.

Last spring it was the Men's Golf team with the highest GPA of an 86.51 (Spring '06 average was 85.65) and the Football team in last with an 81.68 average (Spring '06 average was 84.02). However, in the fall of 2005 the average student body GPA was less, at 86.87 and the average of all the athletes was an 85.58. For women, the Field Hockey team came in first over the spring of 2006 with an average GPA of 89.78 and the squash team came in last with an 82.49.

Buchman was not able to supply the average GPA for her musical groups, but did say that her students were "fully represented on the Deans List."

While Viscomi believes that "grades aren't always the greates indicator of later success in life," she said, "under Dean Inzer's direction, the selectivity has improved over the years. That should give everyone a good indication of the type of students who we enroll here."

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As the year comes to an end and the seniors graduate, new positions open up on the football, soccer or softball teams. The coaches will make sure admissions knows how many "slots" are left to fill for their team next year. The same will happen all around campus and as new applicants apply, Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer and her team will work hard to ensure those "slots" are filled.

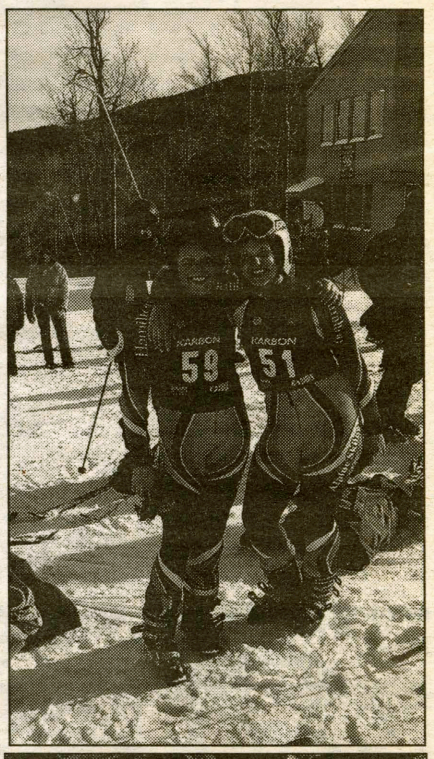
Acording to Inzer, if a world-class violinist applies, but Buchman has requested a "slot" for a cellist, he or she will probably not be accepted. As always, the admissions process is never black and white and "there isn't a predetermined number of athletes we can take," Inzer explains. "If coaches bring outstanding candidates to the table who compete in our admission pool, we do not limit that number. However, we turn down many qualified candidates. Therefore, we need to prioritize which students we can take in any given year and to do that we make an informed decision about programmatic needs."

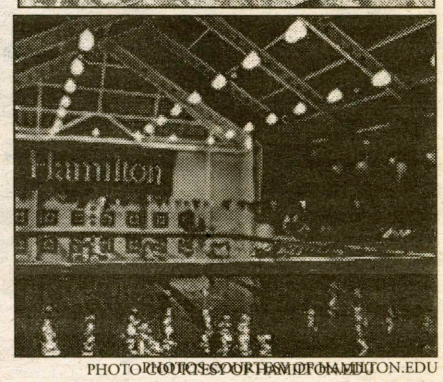
For those rumors that each team receives a set amount of "slots," every year, Inzer responds: "I'm not saying we don't have slots, but there is a floating number due to programatic needs."

She is predicting that in this admissions cycle, the school will have to reject more people than in previous years, thus if someone that is on the fence, along with thousands of others, and he or she plays a sport that needs a player, that person might just be getting a letter welcoming him or her to The Hill.

How did you feel about this series on recruiting?

If you liked or hated it, please write letters to the editors at spec@hamilton.edu.





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Recent spike in campus theft

by Emma Furman '07
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

While we may think that we live in relatively tranquil and safe upstate New York, it is important to keep in mind that Hamilton College is not immune to theft. There has been a recent upward trend in the amount of items stolen from students on campus, including a number of laptops, and most recently, possessions from 12 out of 18 members of the Men's Swimming Team were stolen from the locker room while the team was at practice. According to T.J. Davis, head coach of the Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams, it was the team's first day in the locker room for the season, and while they were out at practice, "someone got into the locker room and rifled through the belongings of all of our guys."

He went on to say that not all members of the team had their belongings in the locker room that day, and only 2 out of the 16 members who had their possessions stored in the locker room were left unrobed.

Davis stated that the first call the team placed was to Campus Safety, and that following the call members of the Kirkland Police Department came up to campus and the students filed reports.

According to Davis, the belongings stolen include six cell phones, several watches, cash and two pairs of shoes.

There are no leads as of now as to who broke into the locker room.

The Spectator will follow up after Thanksgiving Break with a more in depth article on the Swim Team's incident, as well as other recent increases in campus theft.

In the meantime, watch your belongings, be careful to lock your dorm doors, and keep an eye on things when packing up for Break.

Weis on "Families & School Structure Inequality"

by Danielle Alfano '09
NEWS WRITER

America prides itself on the ideology that "anyone can make it," yet society increasingly structures unequal outcomes. On November 8, Professor of Education Leadership and Policy of the University of Buffalo Lois Weis, lectured at Hamilton about how, "families and schools structure inequality" in the United States. According to Weis, schools are generally considered a neutral process all children must go through, however, "nothing could be further from the truth." On the contrary, both family and school structures make it exceedingly difficult for the working class to use the school system in an efficient manner. Although it is not impossible to diminish these inequalities, Weis insisted, "it [will take] a heroic effort to overcome."

The first step in such an effort would be to change the nature of the global economy. Since deindustrialization, there has been a fundamental shift in the global economy. With technology as a driving force, stable large scale production continues to increase. This swell has left few barriers to entry and, "routine production workers without a stable foothold in economic life." In an effort to keep customers, companies attempt to give buyers more choices. Many of these choices are found through the internet, creating less secure markets with, "higher highs and lower lows." Such shifts have made it much more difficult for children of poor backgrounds to reposition themselves in what has been referred to as the "gilded age."

As the economy suffers great compression, drastic reductions in the income gaps emerge. There exists, however, certain context for economic restructuring. According to Weis, the impact social class has on child bearing can be classified into two groups, "concerted cultivation," and "natural growth."

Although these categories suffer no boundaries of race, they have become socially specific. Those who comply with the "concerted cultivation" mentality of child rearing tend to occupy the middle and upper class families. Weis put forth that parents of these classes typically, "enroll children in numerous age specific activities that dominate family life," and that, "parents see [these] activities as a transcription of important life skills." With an emphasis on the performance of children, the family has moved from, "parent families" to, "all about the children."

Those of the working middle class, however, typically comply with the child-rearing category of "natural growth." The goal of these parents tends to be to "provide love, food and safety," and to make sure, "that their children grow and thrive." These parents do not focus on "developing social talents," therefore provide their children with more free time.

This allotment of free time enables most children to develop richer ties with family members. Although these children do participate in extracurricular activities, it is usually for very different reason than those of "concerted cultivation." The motivation behind activities for "natural growth" children has a greater emphasis on physical discipline. Despite these differences, Weis emphasized that, "it is not that the parents do not love their children, [rather] their logic is different."

This difference in logic, however, creates setbacks for the children. Parents of the working class generally lack a sense of entitlement when questioning professionals. Consequently, these interactions between parents and professionals become uncomfortable, thereby leading to distrust of institutions. As the school system continues to increase its need for parent involvement, those children of the "natural growth" mentality parents, suffer.

The continually changing school system calls for equally flexible parents. Currently, parental involvement in children's education has become a must. As Weis related, "parents are expected to practice spelling, listen to students read…[and] take them to museums," in an effort to, "aide teachers in preparation of children for class." Even though the school expects parents to help monitor progress, they are above all not to question the school. While "cultivating" parents are likely to accept what the school says, this is not so for "natural growth" parents. The school system itself demands a "concerted cultivation" attitude of its parents. Nevertheless, there seems to be an "appropriate" level of "cultivation," to retain the position of educator.

Middle and upper class parents continue to "cultivate" their children into junior high, high school and even college. Such dedication leads to, "opportunities that will advantage them over [their] life span." Consequently, colleges and universities have been reshaping their images to attract both students and parents. Unlike public institutions, those institutions considered to be "second tier privates," are especially suited for such reshaping. These institutional efforts render a unique experience for upper middle class children, placing them in the category of the "potential elite."

As one who studies class formation as a profession, Weis related, "what we're seeing now is a moment of consolidation of [the] upper middle class as a class [in itself], produced through schools." In order for those of the lower middle class to "make it big time" they must "buck the odds." Weis put forth that, "colleges and universities need to set aside funds for the not cultivated," creating similar benefits to those of the upper middle class. Furthermore, these newly cultivated students must, "go back to their communities of origin to help other [natural growth] children move through the system."

Goldberg lectures on Conservatism

*from **Conservative**, page 1*

they don't apply. In fact, Bush is the first president to spend over 3 percent of the GDP on public health programs, to approve stem cell research, and to increase the number of people on the government payroll since the Cold War, said Goldberg. Bush increased spending on labor by more than 50 percent, passed the largest expansion of entitlements in 40 years, and approved steel tariffs. Goldberg's point was that Bush "is not too hot, he's too sweet," he is not a "red hot zealot," but a robber of liberal issues. President Clinton on the other hand, took time off the campaign trail to "go home to Arkansas to execute a mentally retarded man." Goldberg commented that he is "very pro-death penalty, but not necessarily pro-killing-retarded-people."

According to Goldberg, all political arguments essentially boil down to Rousseau vs. Locke, to the communal vs. the individual. Followers of Locke believe individuals should decide how to lead their own lives. Liberals think conservatives are totalitarians out to run their lives, while conservatives think liberals are totalitarians out to control theirs. Communists are pure "Rousseau-ians" and libertarians are pure "Locke-ians," but everyone else is in between, Goldberg said.

Conservatives are comfortable with man's imperfection, according to Goldberg. In the 90s, Blair and Clinton held that any difficult choice where X comes at the expense of Y is a false one. Liberals under this mode of thinking say "I refuse to believe" that a clean environment will come at the expense of economic growth, and "I refuse to believe that we have to sacrifice our civil liberties to fight the war on terror." Goldberg finds the argument that the terrorists win if we sacrifice our civil liberties idiotic. He went on to discuss how liberals speak of youth as if it somehow speaks an authentic truth that has been beaten from the rest of us, and how liberals like Hillary Clinton (with her "concern for New Yorkers") esteem passion and concern above logic. Goldberg said that while liberals value passion, concern, empathy and religious-sounding rhetoric, conservatives discuss ideas. Goldberg described young conservative events as superior to liberal events where youth testify their useless passions and dreams. Young conservatives walk around in their Adam Smith ties, arguing about what would happen if Spiderman fought the Hulk, or whether Ayn Rand was a libertarian. Contrastingly, liberals, who according to Goldberg can't even identify John Dewey as an important liberal philosopher, don't have any relationship with their own history.

While Goldberg supports the religious right, he does not believe their arguments are effective to people outside their religion. "If you don't believe that god told you gay marriage is wrong…me saying god said so is about as persuasive as saying this Petri dish of mold said so," he said. Goldberg finds Edmund Burke's idea of trial and error more effective. Successive generations have made mistakes, learned from them, and incorporated them into their lifestyles. Conservatives believe there are real arguments for the way they live, while classic leftist desires to create new politics, reject the past, and reject bourgeois codes of morality date back to the French Revolution. According to Goldberg, doctors found weird diseases like "the rot, the grunt, and the drip" in the liberal "hippies" of that time. He said these diseases reappeared in the hippies of Haight Ashbury….who were not following the basic codes of morality dating back to the French Revolution. In their rejection of hygiene and bourgeois morality they ate communal food, didn't bathe, and slept around without washing their sheets. "Diseases came rushing in as social norms were left behind," Goldberg noted.

To Goldberg, this is historical proof that it is good to respect old practices. Liberal vanity and ignorance are analogous to "pulling up the hood of the car, yanking things out saying 'these wires aren't necessary,' and acting surprised when things don't work." It's the job of the conservative to "be the guy in the room to say that's not a good idea… and more often than not, you wont be wrong, you'll be right," Goldberg said. He went on to say that liberals hate hypocrisy because it violates their sense of authenticity and the unity of all things. Mocking liberals, Goldberg said "If you've ever used drugs, you have to endorse drug use for everybody. Being a closeted gay man is not being true to yourself."

Goldberg said that in the 80s Madonna mastered the "hip whorishness" that Spears and Aguilera mimicked. Anyone who pointed at her and said "she's an idiot," or "she's sending a bad message to teenage girls," were labeled a prude. Now Madonna has been reborn as the super-mom in total rejection of her own past, and admits that she "can't believe how self-indulgent and irresponsible" she was.

*see **Goldberg**, page 7*

INSIGHTS & IDEAS

Post-graduation Facebook: The perfect networking tool

by Matt Bradley '07
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

A Senior Column: fleeting perspective

Facebook is a brilliant networking tool that, when all is said and done, will be bought by Google or Yahoo for at least two billion dollars—that nerd Zuckerberg is going to make a fortune.

But right now, while Facebook is still under Zuckerberg's control (which the student populace should be happy about because its regulations are extremely liberal), we should all take advantage of the opportunities the site affords college students and recent graduates; nevermind the pre-pubescent high school nerds who have broken into our elite circle—go back to MySpace, little ones.

The youth of America isn't quite ready for the opportunities Facebook allows crazy college students. Recently, my roommates and I have given each other free rein on our profiles, a step that takes a great deal of mutual trust, and more importantly, creativity.

Currently, some of my interests include snow globes, spelling bees, flavored condoms, and [censored by The Spectator].

Additionally, some of my roommates' interests include cottage cheese with apple slices, Glade Plug-ins, and people who aren't afraid of commitment. Obviously, we could have gone a lot more over the top with our entries, but there is a giant rumor that employers view the profiles of their potential employees.

Personally, I think this rumor is unfounded. Any employer that doesn't appreciate a sense of humor shouldn't hire a hippie Liberal Arts student anyway. Facebook is a form of personal expression; why not use it to its full capacity?

I think we all had problems with the Facebook mini-feed when it first came out; change is a difficult thing. But let's be honest, now I can find out which of my high school buddies has added LFO to his list of favorite bands or which girls on campus are now members of the "Flaming Feminist Alliance" Facebook group (careful).

The mini-feed allows a campus of 1,800 students to truly learn about each other—a task that can't quite be matched by Bundy parties and free laundry sessions by the Christian Coalition (cheers, guys).

But really, I'm thinking about the future. When we are all alumni, the Facebook mini-feed will be the ultimate networking tool.

A few years from now, when I find out that LiPuma is an Executive Officer at Bear Stearns, you can be damn sure I'm going to send him a Facebook message wondering if he needs someone to do his marketing. Similarly, when Jix goes on tour with U2 in 2012, I can promise that he'll receive a poke from me (maybe more depending on whether or not my advertising/marketing career materializes); I can always fall back on playing the harmonica.

The point is, I think we all hope to keep up with our friends from college. Unfortunately, however, it is only a select few who maintain contact for 20, 30 and 50 years after graduation. Facebook, however, may be the force behind the revolution in which college friends (and acquaintances) will have the chance to stay close, even if only through simple hellos.

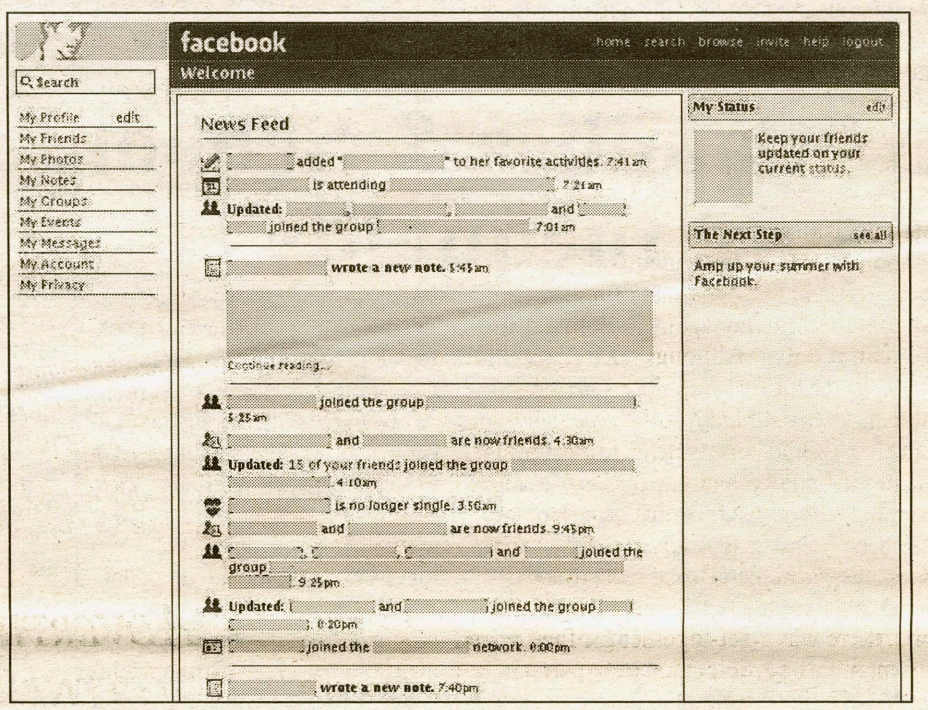
When we're spread throughout the country, grinding through our entry-level jobs in big cities everywhere, Facebook will allow fellow nearby alumni to meet up for a few drinks and share horror stories about trying to "make it."

You may not appreciate your Facebook profile quite yet, but when you're living in a one-bedroom dungeon in the City and you receive a cute little message from one of your old friends asking to meet up, you'll truly understand the value of the Facebook network. We all have to leave this bubble at some point, but Zuckerberg's genius creation allows us to hold on to a piece of the Hamilton Country Club.

If you deactivate your Facebook account any earlier than eight years after graduation, you are pissing on the friendships you made over the last four years.

Facebook could one day lead to the message, that leads to the meeting, that leads to the relationship, that leads to the marriage, that leads to the little kids who enjoy Facebook in 2040.

Think about it, cheers.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added " " to her favorite activities. 7:41 am
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Updated: and joined the group 7:01 am
wrote a new note. 5:45 am
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joined the group 5:25 am
and are now friends. 4:30 am
Updated: 15 of your friends joined the group 4:10 am
is no longer single. 3:50 am
and are now friends. 9:45 pm
and joined the group 9:25 pm
Updated: and joined the group 8:20 pm
joined the network. 8:00 pm
wrote a new note. 7:40 pm
My Status edit
Keep your friends updated on your current status.
The Next Step see all
Amp up your summer with Facebook.

A Facebook newsfeed. PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Thumbs up

- New prank: spray painting your roommate's bike gold.
- Alum runs for President. He grew up poor and orphaned? How did he get into Hamilton?
- Lecture on Gender and Performance…isn't that called stripping?
- The Marines are in Bristol! Too bad my apathy lives in South.
- Hunger Banquet fights poverty with oxy-morons.
- New James Bond comes out this weekend: Popped collars and Fendi purses displace rat-tails and green mohawks at the Marquee Cinema.

Thumbs down

- AAF members don't believe in social lives either.
- Crapoiera…we are as good at spelling as you are at fighting.
- The 7-Up guy decides he is too busy being a nobody to come to Hamilton.
- Womyn rock!…between making meals and popping babies out.
- Thanksgiving reminds us that being American is all about being fatter than everyone else.

by Stephen Allinger '09 & Tyler Zink '07

Who cares

- Physics lecture tests the effects of boring on my consciousness.
- Low Red Land brings Hamilton's three graduates "least likely to succeed" back to campus in an ultimate act of pity.
- Inga Muscio "connects the disconnect" between racism and feminism. Now we can all be feminists and racists. What a relief.
- Watching *The Daily Bull* trying to be funny is like watching a blind person play darts.

The Spectator

Staff Editorial: *Faculty Involvement*

Hamilton is all about "community." We use that word as the not-so-secret password into an elite club of small colleges who claim to have the best students, the best classes and the best faculty. We tout the strong relationships our campus creates; both the lasting student friendships and the all important faculty-student relationships. Many members of the faculty are described as brilliant, friendly and most of all, accessible. We have been lucky enough to have met some of these individuals in our time at Hamilton. We have taken classes with many; have had the good fortune to serve on committees with some; and most of all we have had the chance to cultivate wonderful relationships outside of the classroom with a few. So, this Staff qualifies our Editorial by saying that there do exist some faculty members who are extremely accessible and involved in the community. However, we think that the majority of the faculty ought to look beyond the fine print of their contracts and at what would make our campus great.

So, it's that time of year again: students are planning their course schedules. It was our sincere hope that with the availability of syllabi prior to course registration, Hamilton's students would be able to make better, more educated decisions about classes. Unfortunately, as of last week, after half of the student body had already registered, only about 70 syllabi were available for students to preview.

In a few weeks, we will be selling our books back to the bookstore, hopefully for more than a dollar. Although chances are, the faculty will not have turned in the titles to be used next semester, so we will get back less than we would have if the titles had been reported. On page 36 of the 2006-2007 Course Catalog it states: "a student will need an additional $1,200 to cover the cost of books and supplies." That's an arm and a leg for some students. A little help from the faculty so that we are able to get some of our money back would be much appreciated and we think, is not too much to ask.

Over Family Weekend, there was a get-together for faculty and families. Very few faculty members participated. Sadly, we are not shocked. In former Student Assembly President and current Judicial Board Chair Michael Blasie's well-written and well-intentioned Letter to the Editor in the November 3 *Spectator*, he touched on this very issue of attendance at the Faculty and Family Reception. Blasie said: "I can imagine no reasonable or plausible argument on why anyone should not expect professors to come to this event. Professors should be there because it is their duty to do so. While this may not be written in their contracts or required by department chairs, I, a student, like many others, expect them to be there. I expect them to do more than research and teaching. I expect them to be involved in this community." We could not put it better ourselves.

The general theme here is that some members of the faculty appear to be reluctant to stray from their contracts. If it doesn't explicitly state "You must post syllabi," why should a strong recommendation change anything? If it isn't mandated that faculty must get the titles of textbooks to the bookstore by a certain date, why rush? Books only cost a couple hundred dollars, chump change for the average student, right? Wrong. Why would professors like to meet our parents over Family Weekend? The only reason we tell them about the lectures and projects and paper topics is so that you will forever just be a name that gets mentioned when we talk about sophomore year fall and that really cool class we took. Why attend an event that is described as "Meet the Faculty members you have heard so much about," right? Better things to do?

When some of our Editors give tours or interview prospective students, we inevitably spout the statistic of our 9.7-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio. We tell stories of house-sitting and dog-sitting for faculty members; of teaching swimming lessons to their children; doing our laundry for free on a cold Saturday night while babysitting. We hear similar stories about reading plays at other faculty members' homes on Sunday mornings, or going to dinner at a professor's house on any night of the week. We hear about the faculty members who stayed after for even longer than they had planned to help their struggling students. We have been the struggling students who have asked for help and received it, not only for academic problems, but emotional ones as well.

However, as great as our stories are and as great as our peers' stories are, the stories are about all of the exact same faculty members, time and time again. We hear of the accessibility and the kindness and the thoughtfulness of the same people. We see the same faces at events. One Editor reads the e-mails each week from the same faculty members who have questions, concerns or comments about the Student Assembly Minutes. We see the same faculty members at our athletic events supporting their students. The general theme is that the involved professor is few and far between on this campus.

Simple logic follows that the best way to fix this is for faculty to just be cognizant of what is best for our community. The College could go so far as to add lines to contracts and have a Department Chair require attendance at community events. However, we don't believe that is what needs to happen. What needs to take place is a change in attitude. We want faculty to understand their unstated responsibilities to our community. We want them to realize that there is large difference between what is being done and what ought to take place.

We have written numerous editorials now with the underlying message that students need to take a more active role in the Hamilton community. It is our hope that with increased faculty involvement, students will motivated and encouraged to become more participatory as well.

So, we, as an Editorial Staff, challenge the faculty to make changes. Improve faculty attendance at community events. Improve contact outside of the classroom. Most of all: match the hype that some of your peers have already created with their actions. We hope every faculty member will strive to be the subject of a great story on the next tour around campus.

The Spectator

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First published as The Radiator in 1848.

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Liked what we had to say in this week's editorial?

Hated it?

Write a letter to the editor to spec@hamilton.edu
or post on our Facebook wall by friending *The Spectator* at www.facebook.com.

A call for engagement: Make yourself heard

by Alex Sesserman '09
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

Like most people, I hardly ever read *The Spectator*. When I do, I flip through the pages until I find the Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down column to see how my fellow classmates intend to anger the administration this week. Occasionally, I might glance over the front page and find out that we have received yet another large sum of money, or that the school is becoming more racially diverse. Quite simply, there is nothing that draws me to the thing. I say this as a writer and as a student: *The Spectator* has to change if it wants to be read.

Many accuse the paper of being unprofessional. It is. It is run entirely by students – it is no professional paper. We should have no delusions of grandeur (drawing comparisons to the *New York Times* amongst others). We are what we are and we should be proud of that. We can seek to become more professional, spend more time on editing, write more in-depth pieces, and write more about nationally significant events. In fact, we owe this to the campus. We should seek to write things that deserve to be read, and hold both ourselves and our writing to a higher standard.

Yet, there is a fundamental problem that does not allow the paper to be what it should be. The problem isn't necessarily the people writing. They try their hardest with the time they have. The problem is the people not writing – it is not what *The Spectator* has, but what it doesn't: enough writers and editors. The more people that work on the paper, the better it will be. The more diverse and interesting issues the paper touches upon, the better the editing and content is, the better it will become. It should be something we read, not something we drunkenly plaster the Martin's Way Bridge with.

I often hear people say that they wrote in high school, but that *The Spectator* is so bad they will not write for it, or refuse to on principle. We cannot think this way, because contributing to something will not make us worse, but only better for our contribution. The paper can only get better if you contribute, and only worse if you do not. Only participation will improve *The Spectator*. Only through active participation will we make it what we want it to be.

Why write? We all have busy schedules. What could be the reward of writing in a publication so few would confess to reading? At the very least it is something to put on the resume/grad school application. There is more to it than that though, much more. This paper should be the forum where we share our interests with others on campus, where we challenge or succumb to authority. In an age where the only thing that motivates students to organized action are Facebook petitions, it seems that we should do more. We can discuss more, we can read more and we can demonstrate we are not as apathetic as everyone would like to think we are. "I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness," said Allen Ginsberg. Let it not be said that ours was destroyed by apathy.

If the paper is interesting it will be read. If more people write in it, it will be read. Have the courage to share your interests with the rest of the campus. Find an editor and tell them you want to write about something that interests you, something you want to see in the paper. If the paper is our paper, let it be *our* paper. Let us make it something we can take pride in, or at the very least something we want to read.

The election may be settled, but the political battle never ends.

Liberal?

Conservative?

Moderate?

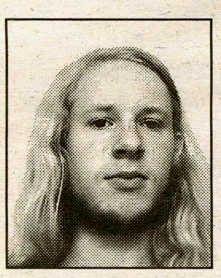
Join the fight and write for I & I.

Letters to the editor policy

***THE SPECTATOR'S* LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, *THE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:**

1. Submissions are due by 10 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to the individual I&I editor (ekuhn or bnoble). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Conservatives on wrong side of history



by Kye Lippold '10
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

I recently had the pleasure of attending a lecture by National Review columnist Jonah Goldberg, in which he persuasively and reasonably outlined "The Case for Conservatism." Goldberg praised conservatism for its support of proven tradition, rationalism and its ability to filter flawed new ideas to create a pragmatic non-Utopian approach to policy. I think these are admirable points, and I agree with Goldberg on how the Democratic and Republican party leadership has gotten too close, the importance of state solutions to social questions, and the moral bankruptcy of popular culture. Unfortunately, I think that despite such reasonable claims, conservatives will have to resign themselves to experiencing failure.

My rationale is simple: conservatism is at its heart opposed to change but, fundamentally, change is inescapable. Conservatives may want to reject new ideas out of pragmatism, but the ideas they propose as alternatives have all been short-lived. Human society and traditions have changed, mutated and progressed for thousands of years, and the rate of that change has only accelerated with the advent of technology and industrialism. And with those changes conservatives have been forced to continually abandon their most fundamental doctrines, while liberals have been able to achieve many of their most valued goals.

Consider the conservative position on monarchy. After the French Revolution that deposed the monarch of France, Edmund Burke (often considered to be the founder of conservatism) wrote of his revulsion toward the changes robbing authorities of their status:

"...Never, never more shall we behold that generous loyalty to rank and sex, that proud submission, that dignified obedience, that subordination of the heart, which kept alive, even in servitude itself, the spirit of an exalted freedom. ...On this scheme of things, a king is but a man..." (Edmund Burke, "*Reflections on the French Revolution*," paragraphs 126 and 129).

Although Burke was fair to criticize the excessive totalitarian terror of the Revolution, his statements suggesting that distinctions between "rank and sex" are key to good government seem outdated in our current democratic system. Citizens of democratic countries regularly criticize their leaders for being human, and few people would argue that this free speech has made it impossible to govern. In the same vein, the attempts by conservatives in 19th century Europe to preserve monarchical power (for example, the exploits of Metternich in Austria and Bismarck in Germany) were ultimately usurped by liberal reforms; democracies with universal suffrage are now widespread in Europe and the Americas. So this early conservative position had to be abandoned.

Next we have the southern conservative position on civil rights. Southern social conservatism historically supported slavery, Jim Crow laws and racial discrimination, yet Goldberg described the slave states as "wrong" and expressed regret that the conservative movement accepted these positions for so long. Sixty years ago, I think fewer conservatives would have seen any need for regret. Conversely, liberal views on race have gained the upper hand; there is no question that civil rights are more widespread, and our government now accepts inequalities as fundamentally wrong to such a degree that I do not see Jim Crow returning to American political culture. Thus, the liberal movement has been able to achieve many goals and move on to addressing the inequalities that remain, while social conservatives have had to concede the issue.

On issues ranging from acceptance of gay rights (Goldberg pointed out that thirty years ago the *New York Times* was still labeling homosexuals as "perverts") to the decline of marriage (married couples are now in a minority among domestic partnerships), Americans have become more liberal. A majority of Americans consistently support abortion, albeit with a call for some restrictions (according to national polls at PollingReport.com). Thus, despite the conservative demand for "moral values," America still seems to be moving away from tradition and towards acceptance of new ideas.

In the economic sphere, support for the key liberal economic program of Social Security has remained high, with majorities opposing President Bush's changes to the policy (as indicated by polls at PollingReport.com). The income tax and national health insurance are now fundamental government policies, and President Bush has had tremendous difficulty removing them despite enjoying majorities in Congress for five years. I think President Eisenhower (the first Republican President to confront New Deal reforms) summed things up nicely when he said, "Should any political party attempt to abolish social security, unemployment insurance, and eliminate labor laws and farm programs, you would not hear of that party again in our political history" (text quoted from The Presidential Papers of Dwight David Eisenhower, Document #1147); it is a simple case where a majority of people think these programs benefit them, and they are thus unwilling to see the programs revoked.

Ultimately, then, conservatism is consigned to an impossible role; defending an old order when all currents of society tend in the direction of change. I do agree with Goldberg that the ideal role of conservatism is to function as a check on overly progressive ideas, but ultimately, conservatism will have to be forced to continually adapt. While there may be no perfect society, people will keep trying to create one.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you to address some of the factual inaccuracies of *The Spectator*. You are this school's primary publication. The least you can do is get the facts right on one of your lead stories.

The writing and editing of the piece entitled "Sports Recruiting 101" are atrocious. The numerous hours spent in *The Spectator* office seem to be a waste if this is the type of writing you consider acceptable to publish and distribute to the entire school and community. With articles like this, "perspective" students should not want to come to this school if this is the caliber of our school newspaper. I didn't think that a college should still have to focus on spelling in English classes.

Finally, the Thumbs Up/ Thumbs Down column has bordered on offensive within the past month or so. The comment regarding the Martin's Way cat and use of the word "pussy" in a sexual innuendo context were in poor taste, and simply were not funny. Also, this past issue's TU/TD commentary included a reference to sex offenders and trick-or-treaters. If you find this humorous, you should not be editing a somewhat credible newspaper. It is because of comments like this that I cringe when seeing *The Spectator* downtown or in the hands of parents during family weekend.

I am not a person who normally writes letters like this. However, I feel like something needs to be done to fix this paper. Are fact checking and spellchecking that difficult? Also, the level of taste accepted by the editors of this newspaper should be reviewed and somehow altered to be at the level of the students and adults reading this newspaper. It appears to me that some of your writers and editors do in fact do an excellent job. They seem to set an example that is not followed by the rest of your staff. Knowing some of these writers and editors, I know for a fact that your editorials are not representative of your entire staff. Perhaps you should change this policy to ensure that everyone is heard in an effort to make your paper well rounded and more representative of this entire campus.

The titles of Editor-in-Chief or Section Editor must carry with it many weighty responsibilities. Upon accepting this title, you must take responsibility. If you are perfectly okay with standing behind this newspaper as it is published now, your standards seem considerably low. I hope this commentary does not fall on deaf ears. In the future, I hope you will take my comments into consideration because I know that I am not alone in my opinions. I look forward to your response.

Regards,
Donner Stocks '07

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Are you looking to chat with hot singles in your area?

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Jonah Goldberg offers his vision of "what an ideal society isn't"

from **Goldberg**, *page 3*

It is now clear that the conservatives who were told "oh you judgmental old fart" in the 80s were right. In Goldberg's opinion it's easy for Madonna, who's never changed a diaper, to be "progressive," but it's "much harder for a blue-collar family who makes $50,000 a year...who have some really dire consequences that can screw up their lives." Moral knowledge is cumulative, and there are prices to pay for following your "own internal compass" in everything you do and think. Sometimes, Goldberg conceded, outdated norms deserve to be overturned, but trial and error must be respected and things must always be done for a reason as opposed to "happenstance".

Conservatism, unlike communism and fascism, respects that no individual can conceive of a perfect. Goldberg believes that liberal concepts of social engineering and political science stem from a false notion that we can somehow do the math and figure things out for everybody, while conservatives understand that "no one is that smart." If we simply returned to the superior federalism of the framers of the Constitution, most arguments would be irrelevant. To Goldberg, democracy is better than a lot of other systems, but there have been tyrannical democracies that allowed for slavery. "Idiots who aren't smart enough to be a spell-checker at an M&M factory say 'the UN voted to condemn Israel,' but voting doesn't make them moral...voting is not immoral, its amoral," he said.

In an appeal for federalism specific to the audience, Goldberg described college residential scenarios under different governments. Under absolute democracy, a coalition of "stoners, jocks, hippies, deadheads, and guys who wear beer hats" could vote for a 24/7 party environment and impose this on the rest of the students, or a coalition of "Mormons, foreign exchange students, and geeks" could vote to impose an extremely quiet environment on the rest of the students. Under dictatorship, the administration could impose a residential policy that would "piss of 80% of the students," Goldberg said. However, a federal system would allow each building to decide what was best for itself. One might have total quiet time and another total party time, but the system would let people decide for themselves. According to Goldberg, Washington is trying to pursue a one-size fits-all policy while there are people like Barbara Streisand who want abortions for all, and people like Pat Roberts who want abortions for none, fighting it out. While Goldberg opposes gay marriage, he believes the decision should be pushed back to the states. Instead of what he believes to be the ACLU position, that something supported by one person must be supported by 99 percent of the population, he believes in federalism.

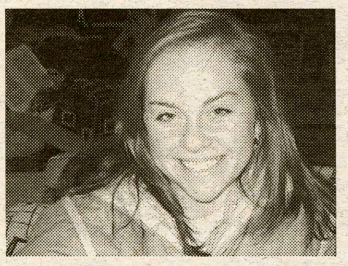
Goldberg noted that democracy is not about agreement, its about argument. At the end of the day, if you feel oppressed where you live, you can move. Goldberg went on to lament the state education is in, joking that federalism to young people is "like brunch: no one really knows what it is, and there's a slice of cantaloupe at the end."

However, young people raise the legitimate concern that we hung on to the tradition of slavery long after it was proven wrong, and Jim Crowe was evil. But we fought the civil war and we amended the constitution a couple of times, so people should lose the slippery slope notion that because of what happened with slavery and Jim Crowe laws, the government needs to be involved in what kind of pop tarts you eat and what kind of car you drive."

Goldberg would rather live in a system where "you take risks, and if you make mistakes, it doesn't affect everybody." Ultimately conservatism is the doctrine that says there is nothing new under the sun. It is not always right, but it rightfully says most new ideas are stupid, and that's the way to bet. "A conservative may be wrong once, but that doesn't mean he's wrong the other 99 times out of 100," Goldberg said.

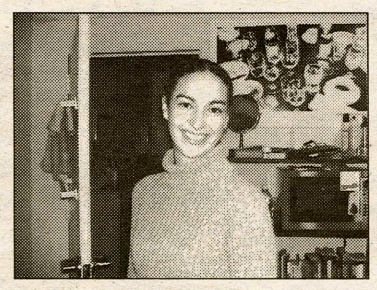
Goldberg concluded that conservatives don't find ideal societies in the future; they find them in the past. Where liberalism's major weakness is idealism, conservatism's major weakness is nostalgia. People often forget that Sir Thomas More contrasted Utopia with Eutopia, not the ideal society, but the good society. Eutopia is the humble conservative idea. Ultimately, Goldberg cannot offer a vision of an ideal conservative society, he "just (has) a pretty good vision of what an ideal society isn't."

For more information on these topics, and to access the National Review Online please visit *http://www.nationalreview.com/*.



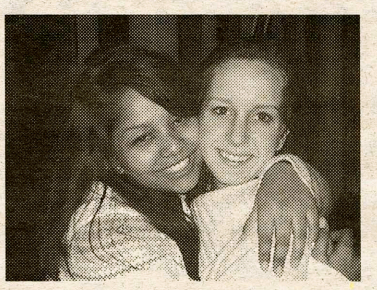
"Buy a heavy coat."

~Jennifer Talevi '10



"The weather at Hamilton College makes me want to stay inside."

~Laurel Symonds '09



"Curl up and cuddle with Annie!"

~Shafari Farhana '09 and Annie Dickson '09

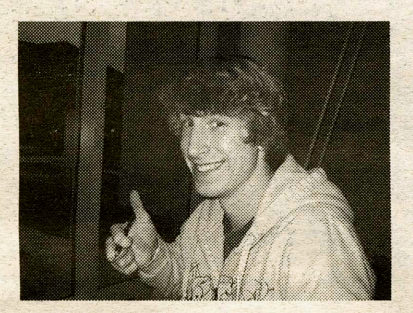
" The weather at Hamilton College makes me want to run away."

~Liz Duncan '10

Hamilton Unscripted

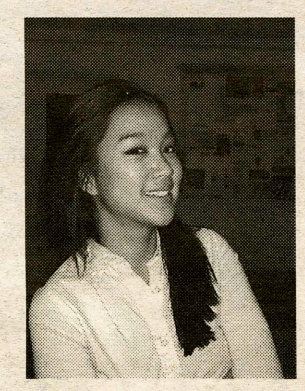
This week's question:
The weather at Hamilton makes me want to...

compiled by Nonny Chizea '08 & Kazarae Lowe '10



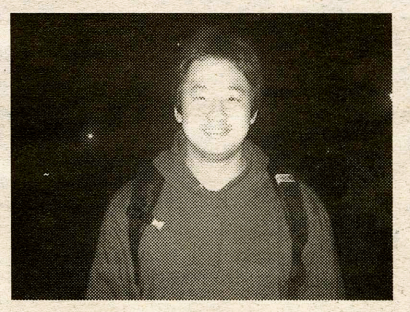
"Run around outside naked in joy!"

~Casey Bloomquist '10



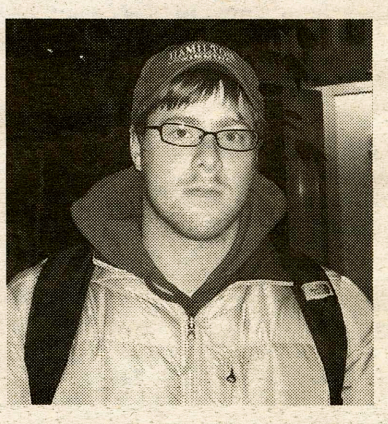
"Lecture you about global warming / cuddle (which I usually hate to do)."

~Ingrid Therasook '07



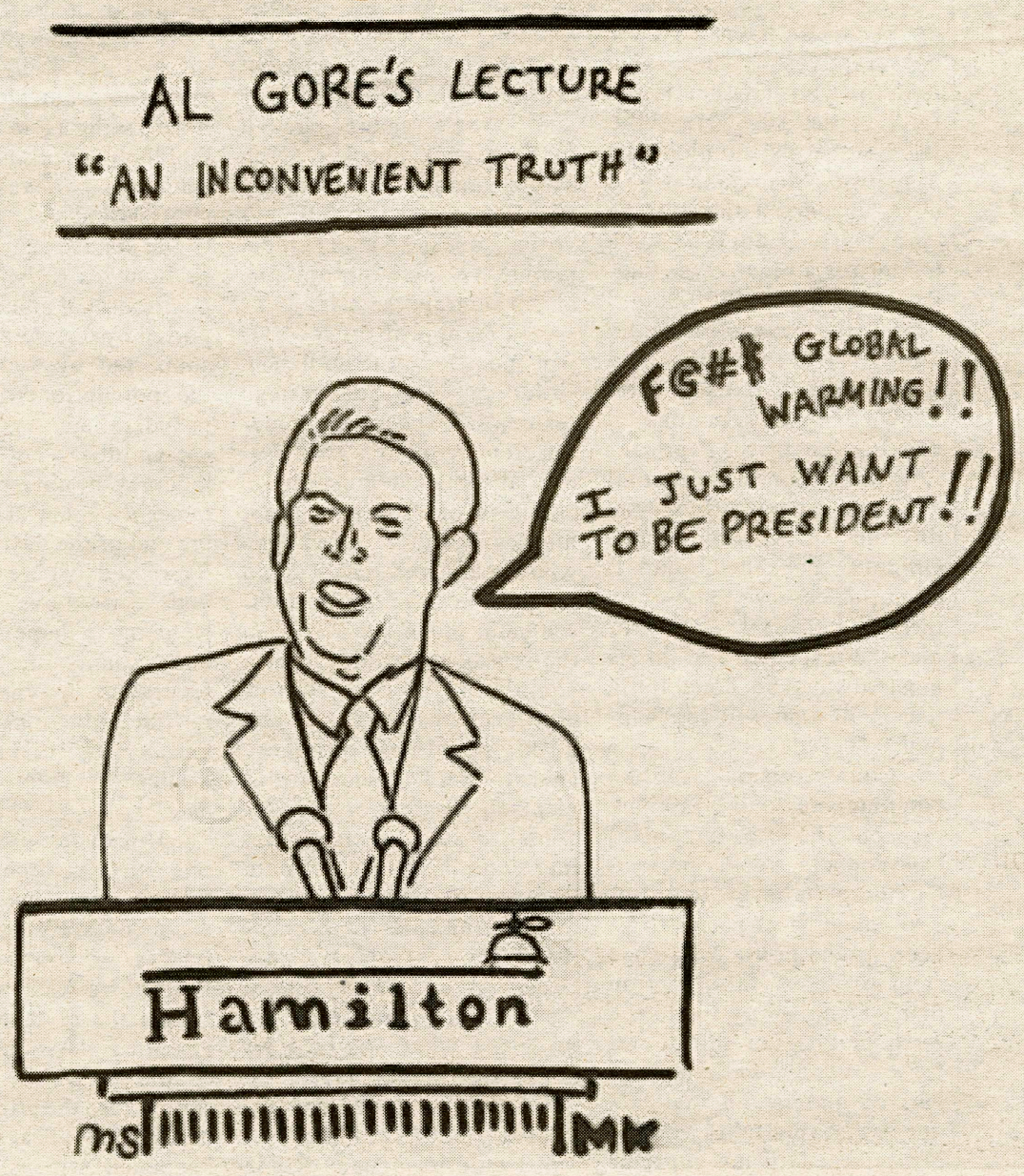
"It makes me depressed and want to drink vodka to stay warm."

~Eugene Nahm '10



"Hibernate..."

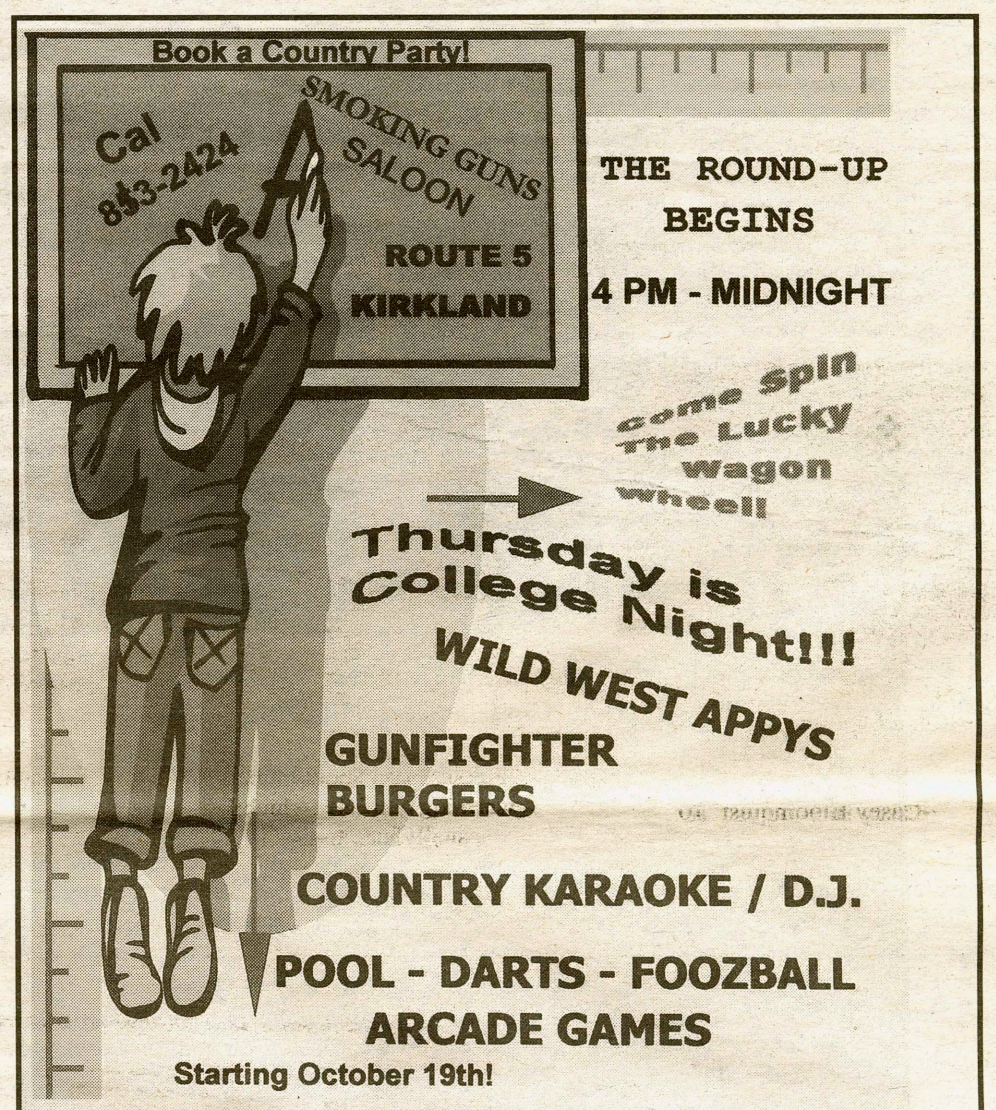
~Chip Smith '08



by Matthew Kotlove '09
STAFF CARTOONIST

ADVERTISEMENTS

FRIDAY Irish Happy Hour- Donal O'Shaughnessy/ drink specials
SATURDAY-BLUE,BLUES and BBQ /pitchers of Labatts



October:
Oct 27: Mchanical Bull
Seven Bridges Band

Oct 28: Fulton Chain Gang (band)

November:
Nov. 2: College Night - Karakoe/ DJ
Line Dancing

Nov. 3 - Seven Bridges (band)

Nov. 4 - Seven Bridges

No. 9 - College Night - Karaoke/ DJ
Line Dancing

Nov. 10 - Mechanical Bull
Seven Bridges

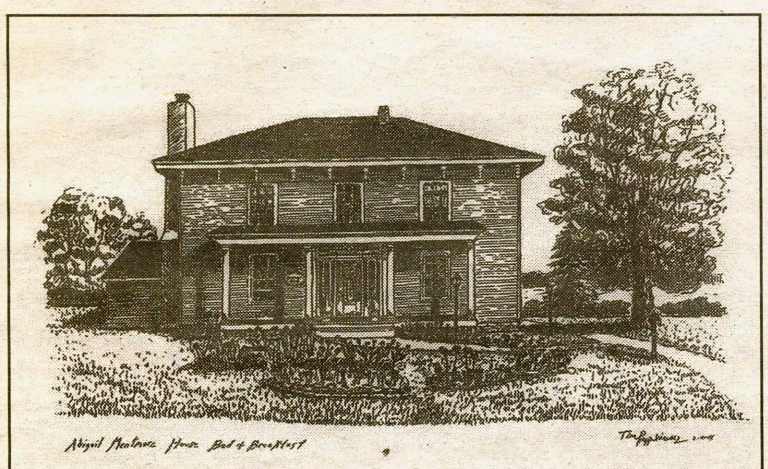
No. 11 - Branded (band)

Nov. 16- NASCAR driver Ken Schrader
College Night - Karaoke/DJ
Line Dancing

Nov. 17 - Seven Bridges

Nov. 18 - High Noon (band)

Nov. 22 - Renegade (band)



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Hamilton Model UN participates in conference

by Brittany Albert '10
FEATURES WRITER

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT D'AMICO '08

Members of the Hamilton Model United Nations organization at the University of Pennsylvania's Model United Nations Conference earlier this month.

Twelve members of Hamilton's Model United Nations organization debated and drafted resolutions for major world issues at the University of Pennsylvania's conference from November 2 through November 5. Matt D'Amico '08, the group's head delegate, stated that the team decided to attend the conference because of "the high level of competition" with over 100 colleges and universities. "It's also fun and interesting to meet kids from other schools," said D'Amico.

The conference simulated a real United Nations meeting as each school was assigned one or two countries and was expected to represent their nations' views and ideas on important global issues. Some members of the Hamilton team represented Latvia while others represented Bosnia and Herzegovina. Hamilton's participants were required to research and understand the policies of their assigned countries. "In Model UN, you represent the viewpoint of another country, making you aware of the way other countries view issues," said conference attendee Rachel Horowitz '09.

At the conference, Hamilton delegates were split up into several committees: Legal, NATO, Special Political, Social, Humanitarian, Cultural and Disarmament. Each committee discussed different topics such as conflict in the Middle East, humanitarian aid and the particularly controversial avian flu. "The issues we discussed ranged from vaccines for the avian flu, poultry replacement programs for farmers who had to kill their poultry, education of farmers about the avian flu and control of borders to prevent the spread of the avian flu," Horowitz said. Discussion of certain pertinent issues like nuclear non-proliferation was not allowed in accordance with actual UN policy. Hamilton's delegates experienced the difficulties of diplomacy, as it is tough to get countries with disparate values and interests to form one cohesive, global resolution to an issue. "It is a slow, arduous process," D'Amico said. "It's a frustrating thing when you are trying to get people to come to a consensus on issues that are so complex."

Model UN is supported by Hamilton's Arthur Levitt Center, which promotes student involvement in public affairs. According to D'Amico, "[Model UN] helps students effectively cooperate with people and problem solve. It's good for working on our public speaking and writing and also allows us to use the things we learn in our classes at Hamilton." D'Amico encourages anyone with an interest in politics or international relations to inquire about coming to the next conference at Harvard in the spring. D'Amico can be reached by e-mail: mdamico@hamilton.edu.

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E-mail:
mconnor@hamilton.edu

Weekly SuDoku Puzzle

by Martin Connor '09
FEATURES EDITOR

SuDoku- The Number Sensation that's Sweeping the Nation:
This week's puzzle is a bit harder!
Enjoy!
Just fill every box with the numbers 1-9 so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains each number only once!

				6			8	
		5			3			6
4					9			7
	8					7	5	
5	7			2			9	8
	3	4					6	
1			4					3
7			2			9		
	4			9				

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From Where I Sit:
A closer look at the ESOL program

by Bianca Dragan '10
FEATURES WRITER

I am confused. Is asking for support a sign of weakness or rather, is it thought to be a wise choice? When you ask for help aren't you taking care of problems before they become too large?

The Hamilton College experience has been an exciting time; living in a new country, eating all sorts of new things, drinking non-bubbling water (believe me, that is a challenge!), Halloween, laughing way too hard in awkward moments caused by clumsiness or a misunderstanding of words, missing home, meeting lots of new people and taking college courses. During registration, I felt like I was in a race. I wanted to have a good start my first year, so when I came across an ESOL course, I decided to take it although I didn't know much about the department. What I also didn't know about was the extensive support available to International students here at Hamilton.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BIANCA DRAGAN '10

Coordinator of the ESOL Program Barbara Britt-Hysell and her ESOL students.

International students on campus may occasionally need some support in the areas of language, writing and cultural adjustment or in specific subject areas that may present new challenges.

Have you asked them for help: The International Friendship Program (IFP), the Counseling Center, the Writing Center, the Peer Tutoring Program, the Quantitative Literacy Center or English for Speakers of Other Languages Department (ESOL)?

ESOL is a program that provides a variety of services to a broad range of students for whom American English is not their first or native language (including bilingual students). Services include conversation tables (every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. in the CJ Browsing Room), a web site, on-going tutorial assistance, the "From where I sit" radio show (on WHCL 88.7 FM Radio every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.) and two courses. (The program may be used at any point during the student's four years for diagnostic assessment and tutoring.)

"Fundamentals of Composition I and II" are designed to assist ESOL students in sharpening their writing skills for college-level work in all academic disciplines. Both provide regular academic credit toward graduation requirements and credit toward the writing-intensive requirement.

But are ESOL courses only for international students or can American students take these courses too? Barbara Britt-Hysell, the coordinator of the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program, explained, "The course is primarily geared towards teaching non-native speakers. It is a writing skill class but it also involves writing, listening and speaking English and native speakers don't usually have the same needs as non-native speakers. What can be challenging for a non-native may not be as engaging for a native student. This is not a remedial course - it's not about reviewing, so much, the knowledge that you've already been taught. I'm teaching non-native speakers how to write according to the academic standards. Hamilton professors have high expectations and writing standards for native speakers. Non-native speakers want to be held to the same standards, so the ESOL program is designed to support the needs of the non-native speakers. We want all students to perform to their full potential. After all, you got into Hamilton, now you just have to polish the proper language skills to make the most of it."

Britt-Hysell is my professor, so I can tell you personally that she wants us to perform at that high level in her own class. But what makes her different from some professors is that she puts herself in our shoes and congratulates us, "I admire you because you stay engaged in academics and you appreciate your chance to pursue knowledge in the U.S. You're on 24/7 in an environment where everything is new: the way you think, the way you eat, the way you dress, the social life, the people you hang out with. You have that willingness to purely experience life and people and an eagerness about making sure that you're getting everything out of the moment. Since you first arrived here, you have been constantly out of your comfort zone. I'm impressed..."

Then she said something that made me smile: You have double identities. "It's fairly complex, but pretty simple. You have the identity of a non-native speaker. In your countries, you are learning how to speak English as a second or third language, obviously, as a non-native speaker. On the other hand, on campus when you pass somebody and say 'hi' they are not going to know immediately that English is not your native language. People make assumptions first and ask later. And you have to learn how to own this new identity. I try not to teach you only in terms of linguistics and how to translate your native thoughts in English, but how to make those translated thoughts feel like your own. When you come here, you don't really trust your English skills and hide behind the defense that English is hard to learn or that you don't want to make mistakes so you're silent." And, we all know how much professors emphasize the importance of class participation.

Britt-Hysell later confessed, "It's difficult to keep saying 'rewrite.' It's like we're taking a little of the flavor out of your paper. Sometimes students' writings contain phrases that are not grammatically correct but there's meaning and eloquence in the way they are using the language (e.g. "A family is a windless harbor of wracked emotions.") As an ESOL tutor, I prioritize the tutoring according to the professor's comments. It's hard to modify a beautiful phrase, but the expectation is to have a paper that is primarily grammatically clean. It would be unfair not to push students because everyone can learn to write well."

Her close relationship to the students is visible; every time I have a meeting with her, I bump into other students that are leaving or that are coming to see her. So it was only natural to ask her about her best memory during her time spent at Hamilton. She replied, "I have to say that one of my best teaching moments happened on my first day in my first ESOL class with you. I was standing in front of the ten of you; I was your first class. You hadn't been to another class, or another teacher before. It was my first time as an instructor and your first time as students. I think to share that moment with such an amazing group of students was pretty cool."

At one point during the interview while Britt-Hysell was talking, we heard footsteps. Another student was there and needed to ask a question. I was on my way to leave when I saw the huge poster with an Ernest Hemingway quote on the wall. I couldn't finish the interview without asking her if she has a favorite quote or if she has a message for Hamilton students.

She concluded, " I think Pythagoras put it best – 'Let your quiet mind listen and absorb.'"

And dare to ask.

The Spectator Facebook Wall

Have an problem/complaint about something on campus?
Want to write a letter to the editor but don't have the time?
Have an announcement about a club meeting or volunteer activity
you want to share with the campus?
Want to congratulate a colleague or wish a friend happy birthday?

POST IT ON OUR WALL!

We hope this wall will serve as a forum for the entire campus and help to raise awareness and promote campus community through increased discussion. Please see our Staff Editorial on page 5 of last week's Spectator for more information and don't hesitate to drop us an e-mail (spec@hamilton.edu) if you have any questions.

Also, if you don't feel comfortable submitting a post to Facebook but want a publication on our Wall in the newspaper, please send it in an e-mail to spec@hamilton.edu with the subject line "Spectator Wall."
Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Hamilton *Style*: Faculty Fashion

by Nonny Chizea '08
Features Fashion Columnist

It seems to me that most students do not even think about the personal styles of our professors. After all, they have been dressing since before we were born and they have seen a lot of changes in fashion. For this issue of Hamilton Style, I scouted and picked four members of the faculty whom I think have profound senses of style. Each teach in different departments and I thought their career differences would be reflected in their answers. I chose President Joan Hinde Stewart, Deborah Pokinski (Art History), James Helmer (Oral Communications) and Bruce Walczyk (Dance). I hope you enjoy their responses and learn a few things from their styles!

President Joan Hinde Stewart

President Stewart wears a coral pea-coat with big buttons and a pencil skirt. Her coat has this season's biggest theme: military style coats and large buttons! Also, President's Stewarts pencil skirt is also a major fashion comeback. Her look reflects a cosmopolitan educator!

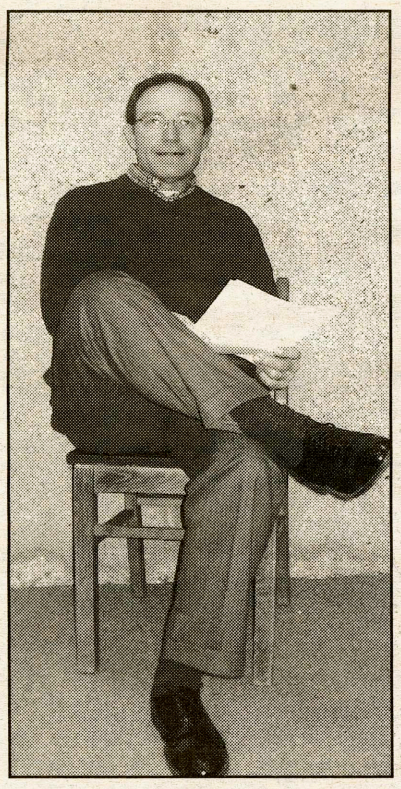
NC: Who is your style icon now and when you were younger?
PS: "I've always loved Audrey Hepburn. But, in general, I admire women whose character shines through both in the way they dress and in their whole demeanor."
NC: Has you career/vocation influenced the way you dress?
PS: "Well, I had to rethink the turquoise tights that got me into Thumbs Down."
NC: What are you most comfortable wearing?
PS: "Sweats."
NC: Do you have any fashion tips for students?
PS: "Dress for the occasion. And layer."

Professor Bruce Walczyk

Professor Walczyk, a.k.a Bruce, wears what he calls his "fashion suit," which was put together by his Bangkok tailor. The lilac dress shirt accents the lighter suit jacket and trouser while the patterns on the tie livens his look! His looks says I am savvy and suave!

NC: Who is your style icon now and when you were younger?
BW: "Never had one and do not now (isn't it obvious?)."
NC: Has you career/vocation influenced the way you dress?
BW: "Yes in context that I dress for comfort and ready for action at any given instant."
NC: What are you most comfortable wearing?
BW: "I am comfortable wearing anything that allows for movement and does not burden my lower half with pockets full of stuff. I prefer a top garment that has holding capabilities. When needed I can wear an elastic waist hideaway for my Glock or Berreta."
NC: Do you have any fashion tips for students?
BW: "Fashion tips are as cliché as it might be, but be yourself and wear what can compliment your natural attributes. Do not be overly trendy and if you look comfortable and secure in your own skin what ever you put over it will be OK."

Professor James Helmer



Professor Helmer's traditional look allows for the option of a jacket. His red sweater brings out the red, black and grayish checked patterns of his shirt. Addionally, Professor Helmer's pinstripe trousers add length.

NC: Has you career/vocation influenced the way you dress?
JH: "My career certainly influences what I wear. Sometimes it has to do with building credibility or conveying a sense of professionalism."
NC: What are you most comfortable wearing?
JH: "In general, for teaching this time of year I like a pair of cuffed, pleated front khakis, or even something a little dressier, with a long sleeved button down collar shirt under a sweater or blazer."
NC: Do you have any fashion tips for students?
JH: "My main fashion tip for students is simply to remember that what they wear does contribute to the image others form of them. And adapt to different situations. For me, as a teacher of oral communication, that often means dressing up a bit when you have to give a presentation."

PHOTOS BY NONNY CHIZEA '08

Professor Deborah Pokinski

Professor Pokinski's look is a cross between European elegance and American modernism. The leaf like patterns on her garb, create a balance with the pinstripe pants. This look screams, "I can take risks!"

NC: Who is your style icon now and when you were younger?
DP: "Today my style icon is Nancy Rabinowitz. When I was young it was my mother - she made all my nice clothes."
NC: Has you career/vocation influenced the way you dress?
DP: "Yes, I don't have to 'power' dress. Being an academic allows for idiosyncrasy. Because I'm an art historian my colors match."
NC: What are you most comfortable wearing?
DP: "I most comfortable wearing clothes that fit well, are made from good materials and are easy to wear. If you have to work to keep them buttoned, straight, etc. I don't want them. No fads."
NC: Do you have any fashion tips for students?
DP: "Don't wear pajamas outside of the dorm; don't wear underwear over your other clothes."

What's Up This Week at Hamilton

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Daily Prayer- 12:00 PM - Chapel Lounge	Newman Mass- 12:00 PM - Chapel			
President Stewart's Open Hour- 1:30 PM - Cafe Opus	Thanksgiving Recess- 4:00 PM			
AAF Meeting- 8:00 PM - Chapel Lounge				
Student Assembly Meeting- 9:00 PM - ELS Building				

Happy Thanksgiving!

The Spectator is starting a new **Blind Date** column after Thanksgiving Break and we want your help!

The new column, modeled after the television show of the same name, will send two Hamilton students on a date (fully funded by yours truly), placing the couple in awkward and humorous situations.

The only catch is that the couple must bring along a tape recorder for full documentation of their date, as well as hold interviews with a writer afterwards to account their date's utter failure or complete success.

Please submit suggestions for who you want to read about, what situations you would find it funny for them to be stuck in, etc. to spec@hamilton.edu.

Do you have specific people you think would be hilarious together?

Do you want to see a jock and a co-op resident go out together?

Want to send an awkward couple to a completely romantic restaurant or a great match to pizza at Chucky Cheese's?

Send us your suggestions!

Weekly Charts

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC
(From iTunes)

Top Albums
1. Gammel Hankat - Kim Larsen and Kjukken
2. Helmig Herfra - Thomas Helmig
3. Twenty Five (Remastered) -George Michael
4. Future Sex/ Love Sounds - Justin Timberlake
5. Interkom Kom Ind - Nephew

Top Songs
1. Let Me Talk To You Prelude/My Love - Justin Timberlake
2. Sweet Dogs - Trolle Siebenhaar
3. This is Not Real Love - George Michael fea. Mutya
4. Op Og Ned - Thomas Helmig
5. Irreplaceable - Beyonce

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)
1. Borat
2. The Santa Clause 3
3. Flushed Away
4. Stranger Than Fiction
5. Saw III
6. Babel
7. The Departed
8. The Prestige
9. The Return
10. A Good Year

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1. VALLEY OF SILENCE by Nora Roberts
2. THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER, by Kim Edwards
3. THE TENTH CIRCLE by Jodi Picoult
4. THANKSGIVING by by Janet Evanovich
5. FOREVER ODD by Dean Koontz

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. RUNNING WITH SCISSORS, by Augusten Burroughs
2. FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS, by James Bradley
3. THE GLASS CASTLE, by Jeannette Walls
4. NIGHT, by Elie Wiesel
5. DREAMS FROM MY FATHER, by Barack Obama

Movies to give thanks for this year

by Leighton Smith '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

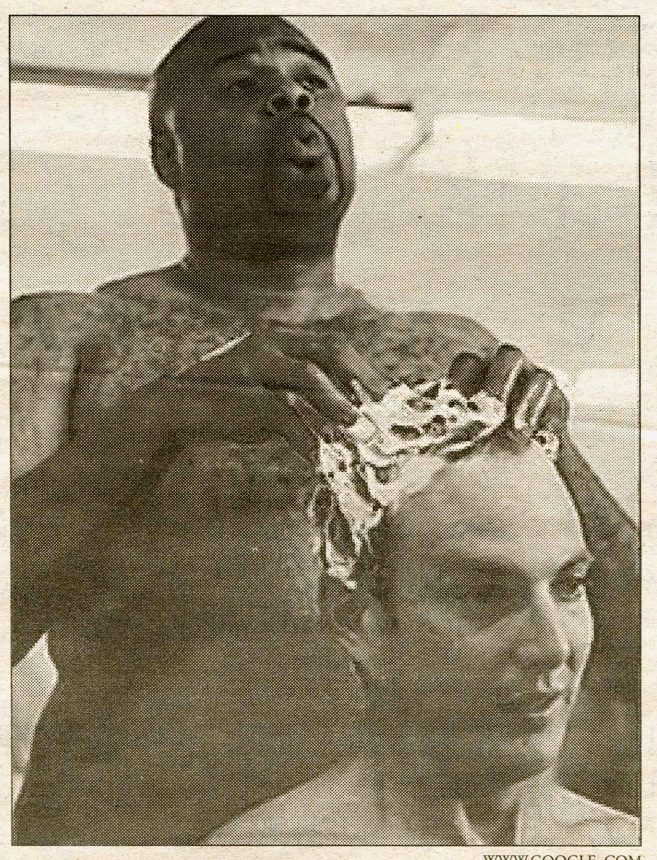
Thanksgiving break is fast-approaching, and I imagine not a moment too soon for most overworked Hamilton students. And with the upcoming holidays, Hollywood is starting to unload some of its most highly anticipated films. So, for those of you looking for some way to pass the time in between stuffing your face and spending time with the family, here is a sampling of what's on the cinematic horizon in the immediate future.

It's been four years since the last James Bond movie was in theaters. Now, fans of the franchise have twice as much to be excited about. First, *Casino Royale* hits theaters on Thursday, November 17.

Second, actor Daniel Craig is making his debut as the secret agent, replacing four-time Bond man Pierce Brosnan. Fans so far have been divided over his selection, but the final verdict will be made once *Casino Royale* has been released.

For those of you looking for something a little more light-hearted, there is a nice array of comedies around the corner. *Let's Go to Prison*, starring Dax Shepard and Will Arnett (the guy who played Job in *Arrested Development*), opens on November 17 as well.

LGTP is about career criminal John Lyshitski, played by Shepard, who intentionally gets himself thrown into prison to exact revenge on a judge who once wronged him. This is only logical because the judge's son, Nelson, played by Arnett, has been wrongly convicted of a crime and is himself in jail. The two eventually become bunkmates and the laugh riot begins.



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Showering with your friends is always a good time in *Let's Go To Prison*.

Also opening on November 17, in limited release, is *For Your Consideration*, the latest from Christopher Guest. Guest is the man behind all of those mockumentaries, like *Best in Show*, *A Mighty Wind*, *Waiting for Guffman*, and *This is Spinal Tap*. Fans of his will recognize many of the regulars who are back on board: Harry Shearer, Parker Posey, Eugene Levy (who co-wrote the screenplay with Guest), Catherine O'Hara, Bob Ballaban and others.

And from the director Emilio Esteves comes *Bobby*, which opens on November 23. That's right - the same man who starred in and directed *Men At Work* is at it again. Here, Esteves presents a retelling of the 1968 assassination of Robert F. Kennedy.

The film follows 22 people who are all at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the assassination.

The star power in *Bobby* is impressive to say the least, and I am not sure how it will be received. Among the 22 principals are Anthony Hopkins, Helen Hunt, William H. Macy, Lindsey Lohan, Demi Moore, Sharon Stone, Laurence Fishburne and Martin Sheen.

Last chance to see "The Water Hen"

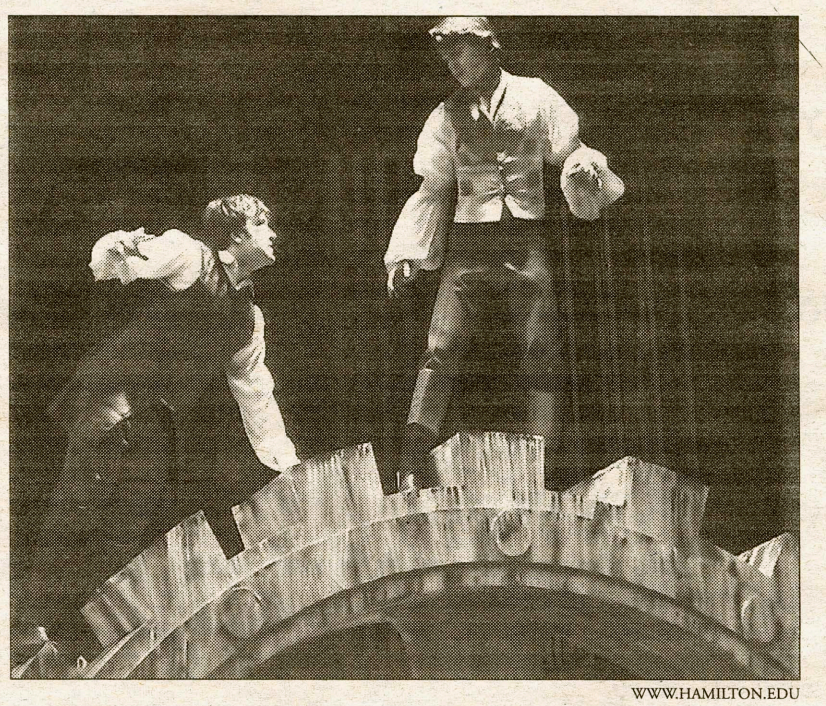
by Rebekah A. Mintzer '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Tonight and tomorrow night will afford the Hamilton community their last chance to see Hamilton's Fall Main stage production of *The Water Hen*, a play by Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz. This production is the biggest theatrical event on campus this fall, and a must see for any student curious about pursuing drama, production or stagecraft.

An avant-garde play in three acts, *The Water Hen* was written in 1921 when Polish painter and writer Witkiewicz and the rest of his native country were recovering from the shock of the First World War and the Russian Revolution, two events that changed the face and history of Eastern Europe, leaving many devastated or at least disillusioned.

Witkiewicz was an eccentric playwright in his time. He sought to defy traditionalism through his art, and worked as a novelist, playwright, philosopher and drug expert. He committed suicide when Poland was invaded during World War II, seeing the tragedy of his country being taken over by foreign aggressors.

The Water Hen refects this disillusionment. The main character, Edgar, played by Arthur Giovannangeli '08, is an everyman character striving for greatness. Like many other characters in the play, cannot seem to find direction.



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The Water Hen **is playing at Minor Theater on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.**

He spends his time philosophizing and dodging demands from his father, portrayed by Will Welles '08, who wants him to become a great artist.

Caroline Nixon '08 plays Edgar's best friend's ex wife, and Lindsey Pearlman '08 plays Edgar's mistress, whom he tries to be rid of without success. Chris Estremera '07 rounds out the cast as Edgar's adopted son. Professor of Theater Carole Bellini-Sharp, who directed a highly creative and energetic production of *As You Like It* last year is the director of *The Water Hen*. Production design is by Bill Burd, John Pollard and Amy Svoboda.

The Water Hen is worth watching because it is a fine example of post-war Absurdist theatre. It is a comedy of the metaphysical that takes place in an irrational world with characters that seem to defy the rules of reason themselves. It includes heavy themes of identity, death and revolution while still managing to make the audience laugh. Students have given the play good reviews, and although some find the plot to be tricky to follow, they appreciate the acting and aesthetics of the performance.

"I really liked it, it was well cast and beautifully done," says Hillary Fixelle '09, who was in the audience Wednesday night. "It was challenging to understand but not impossible. I figured it out…I think."

In spite of its labyrinth of a plot, *The Water Hen* is a fun, thought-provoking option for some entertainment this weekend, and chances are someone you know is involved.

The show begins at 8 p.m. tonight and on Saturday night in Minor Theater. Tickets are $3 for students and $5 for general admission. Reservations are strongly suggested and can be made by calling 859-4057.

The argument against digital music

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

I dislike digital music. Don't get me wrong, I believe it is convenient and, for the most part, a great innovation, but at the same time, digital music is not-so-slowly-but-most-definitely-surely destroying the music industry. The music industry is in some serious danger, and I personally blame iTunes.

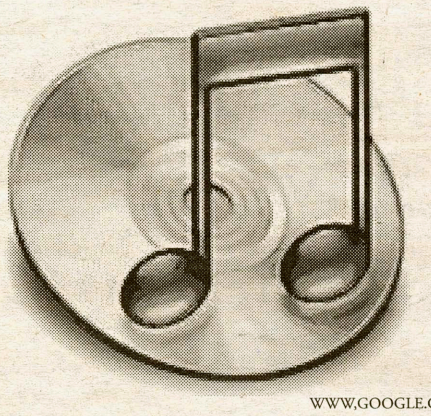
The convenience of digital music does not outweigh the general problems it creates. Music pirating is one. About half of all music downloaded is done so illegally. That means bands are not getting paid royalties and that the whole 'starving artiste' stereotype is becoming a little more relevant to all those people out there who have made music their career.

Also, the fact that almost anyone can upload their music to iTunes or similar programs means that there are a lot of bands out there today who are not very good. They may want to be big rock stars, but they are barely good enough to play at your cousin's Bar Mitzvah. Do we really want terrible, cookie-cutter bands who should have never been allowed out of the garage permeating the music scene? Do we really want to sacrifice quality for convenience? I sure hope not.

Another problem with digital music is that if your computer crashes, it's so long music. Unless you had the foresight to burn your entire music library onto cds, then you are likely to loose every last song you purchased (I hope) off the Internet. I own over one hundred cds, so I know that if, God forbid, my computer decides to call it quits tomorrow, most of my music is safe.

Beside the fact that you may, at any moment lose your music collection to a hard-drive malfunction or freak electrical storm, consumers get so much more for going to a store and buying a physical CD.

Artwork is a huge plus. Sure, you could technically buy the artwork off iTunes, but it's not the same. Not only that, but you may even luck out and get a bonus track or DVD if you actually go and drive to the store. I got a surprise bonus DVD with the last CD I bought, and it was like Christmas.



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The darker side of iTunes could destroy the music industry.

With the insurgence of digital music, consumers are losing sight of the entire work of the artist and buying instead a single or two. How many times have you bought a whole CD and not been completely and entirely thrilled with it, but over time, it grew on you? There's a reason for that, just like there is a reason that bands try to tell stories with their music. Sure, individual songs may be able to stand alone, but I'm sure if you listened to the song in context with the entire album, it would have that much more impact.

I'm not denouncing digital music completely. I'm all for it as long as you buy it legally and as long as you are going to use programs like iTunes to either buy singles from artists that you consider one-hit-wonders or buy the entire album. But I feel that consumers should be more responsible with their downloading habits.

It's just like back in the days of vinyl. You could either buy the single or buy the entire record, and we all know how great vinyl is. People used to get genuinely excited about music. They would wait anxiously for the new Beatles or Zeppelin album to be released so that they could bring it home and listen to it for days. They would make copies of the album on tape and drive around their neighborhood, with the windows down, blasting "Over the Hills and Far Away" and inevitably speeding.

People would incorporate their favorite songs, or songs with sentimental meaning onto mixtapes for friends.

What ever happened to mix-tapes? What ever happened to sitting around in your bedroom, listening intently to whatever new music you had just gotten, waiting to feel that special connection with the music? Are those days completely gone? Did digital music kill them and then go on to embrace today's generation with still bloody hands? Am I being over-dramatic?

Who knows? The appreciation of music that there once used to be seems to be gone. There are fewer and fewer "memorable" bands coming out with quality music these days, and those that do often lack the staying power because of the short attention spans digital music created.

With so much variety of music today, it is any wonder that we seem to be running into this problem? Is digital music the cause or merely the effect? Has iTunes become a scapegoat for why bands do not succeed, or for another manner, has it become the reason that some bands do succeed?

Is it possible that we take a step back and re-evaluate the direction that not only the music industry, but other industries as well are headed? Everything today is either digital, accessible online or can be purchased through Amazon.com. You can watch television shows online the day after they were broadcast. You can get your news as a podcast. In an age of immediate gratification, where is an appropriate place to draw the line between convenience and laziness?

Sitting in an English garden waiting for the sun.
If the sun don't come, you get a tan
From standing in the English rain.
I am the eggmen, they are the eggmen,
I am the walrus,
kookoo kachoo kookoo kachoo

Be the Walrus and write for A&E!
Contact ndietsch or rmintzer for more information.

Hamilton Playlist (Extended Version!)

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

There comes a time in every band's career when they will, undoubtedly, do cover songs. Hopefully, covers aren't the band's entire career, but nonetheless, a great song, made even better? Yeah, we all know you can't resist.

1. Dave Grohl covering *TinyDancer* by Elton John – In the absolutely hysterical live version cover, Dave Grohl thanks Cameron Crowe for introducing him to this song through the movie *Almost Famous*.

2. My Chemical Romance covering *Astro Zombies* by The Misfits – MCR did this cover for the *Tony Hawk's American Wasteland* video game soundtrack and is a juiced-up version of the original.

3. NoFx covering *I Want You To Want Me* by Cheap Trick – Yet again, a hysterical cover. Interjections of "Bacon!" and "She's a lovin' vegan!" make you wonder "WHAT?" at first and then just make you laugh.

4. Matchbook Romance covering *Story of a Girl* by Nine Days – I think it may be wrong to cover a song by a band that is still considered contemporary, but as a cover, it's quite good.

5. AFI covering *Last Caress* by The Misfits – The Misfits were actually quite prolific for the lack of recognition they received, but then again, AFI has been around for around 15 years and is only getting major playtime now.

6. Green Day covering *My Generation* by The Who – It is impossible for Green Day to do anything poorly, and this cover is no exception. At one point, you can hear a bottle break in the background and someone curse loudly.

7. The Cure covering *Creep* by Radiohead – Slower, sadder version, but what else did you really *expect* from The Cure? That's like asking The Smiths to smile for you. There's also a version of Radiohead and The Cure doing this song together floating around somewhere.

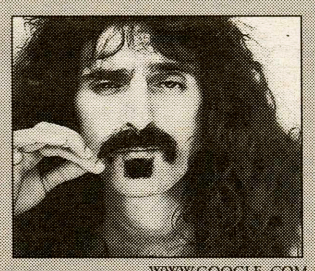
8. My Chemical Romance and The Used covering *Under Pressure* by David Bowie and Queen – Ok, when you first see this, you automatically say to yourself "David Bowie and Queen doing 'Under Pressure' is one of the best songs ever!" Now imagine it a little faster, a little louder, with two drum kits, a tambourine, three guitars and two basses. It's "Under Pressure" on steroids.

9. Green Day covering *Tired of Waiting for You* by The Kinks – Billie Joe Armstrong once said that he sounds like a British guy pretending to be an American guy pretending to be a British guy when he sings. That pretty much works for this song by this Brit-rage band who were cast into the shadows by this little band called, you know, The Beatles.

10. Frank Zappa covering *I Am A Walrus* by The Beatles – Zappa did this live and preludes it with "Ladies and Gentlemen, we're going to do some severe damage to a Beatle's song called 'I Am Der Walrus.' This is the same man who wrote a song about an Eskimo eating yellow snow and named his daughter "Moon Unit."

11. My Chemical Romance covering *Song 2* by The Blur – You all know this song by its chorus of enthusiastic "Woo Hoo!"s, and every time I listen to this version, Gerard saying "Kick it, man" right before the song starts gets me every time and makes me want to head bang.

12. My Chemical Romance covering *All I Want for Christmas is You* by Mariah Carey – A bajillion times better than the original mainly because it rocks like no other Christmas song you have ever encountered. Not to mention is one of only two Christmas songs I listen to year round.



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Work that moustache, Zappa!

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http://brokenword.org

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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hamilton.edu/college/career/

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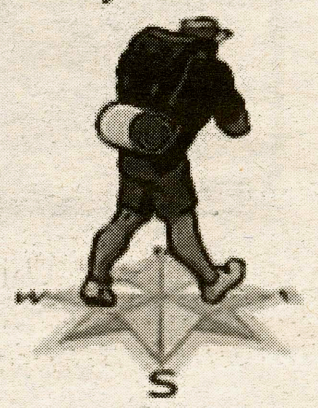

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Make an individual appointment by calling us at x4346!

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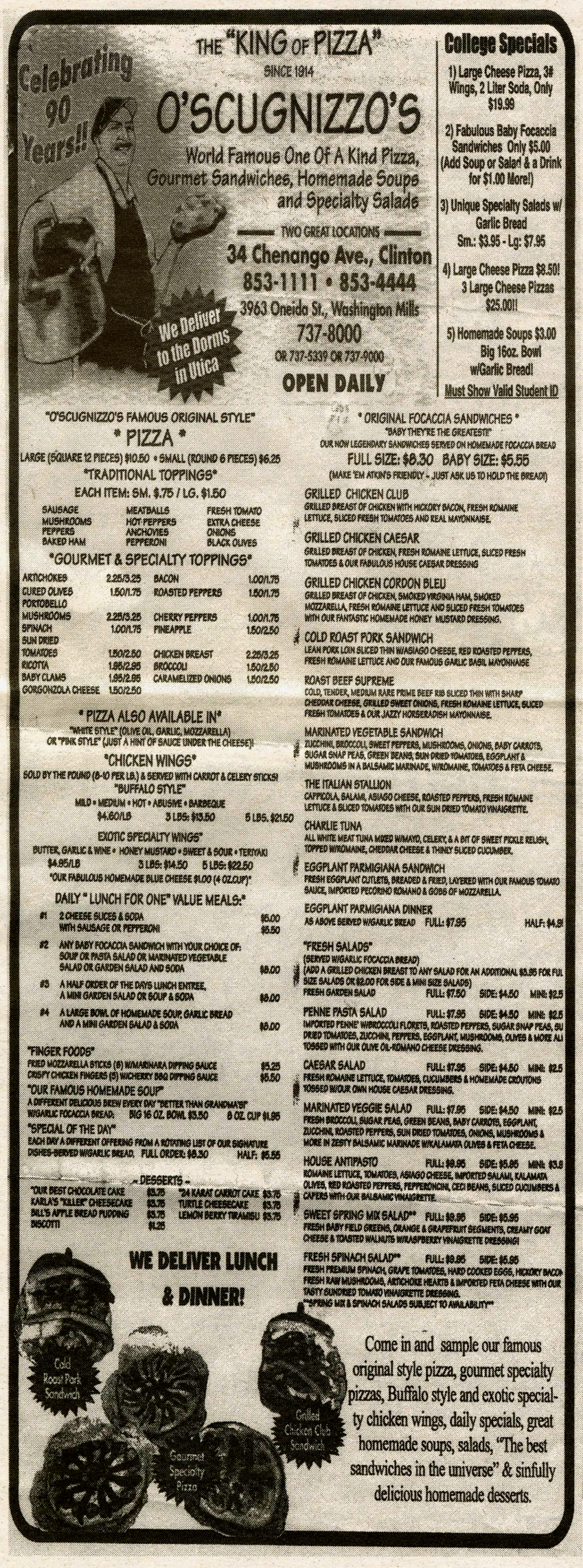
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FRESH PREMIUM SPINACH, GRAPE TOMATOES, HARD COOKED EGGS, HICKORY BACON FRESH RAW MUSHROOMS, ARTICHOKE HEARTS & IMPORTED FETA CHEESE WITH OUR TASTY SUNDRIED TOMATO VINAIGRETTE DRESSING.
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- Member-At-Large of the Media Board (Spring '07-Fall '07)

Contact mblasie@hamilton.edu for an application. Your application must be RECEIVED by Monday, November 27th at 12 Noon. Interviews will be conducted Tuesday, November 28th at 6 p.m. in Bristol.

Darwin Award of the Week

Named in honor of Charles Darwin, the father of evolution, the Darwin Awards commemorate those who improve our gene pool by removing themselves from it.

"Curiosity may have killed this cat, but no amount of satisfaction can bring him back."

25, May 2004, Indonesia

The city of Ambon was on edge. Just two days before, a bomb hidden in a cookie tin, disguised with two bottles of beer and some peanuts, had exploded and wounded five people. So police took extra precautions when a worried man alerted them to a suspicious black plastic bag that had been hung on the handle of his motorbike, while it was parked outside an open market.

The police cleared the area, moved the bag to the middle of the street, and waited for the bomb squad to arrive. Alarmingly, this bag also contained a cookie tin. The police set up a safety cordon 20 meters away from the bag, and warned people to stay back. But after 25 minutes spent waiting for the bomb squad, curiosity got the best of Willem, a 45-year-old fish vendor, and a number of other onlookers. They wanted to get a closer look, see what else was in the bag. What could happen?

What indeed. As they approached the bomb, it exploded, killing Willem and injuring 16 others...

"My Life in Medicine" symposium shines light on human side of medicine

by Alex Hodgens '09
Science & Technology Writer

There are few events on campus so big they only occur once every four years. Saturday's workshop titled "My Life in Medicine: What You Should Know Before Choosing a Medical Career" was one of those events. Students from Hamilton College, Colgate University and local high schools listened as a panelist of speakers, featuring practicing physicians, medical students and a School of Medicine Dean of Admissions, talked about the important aspects of a career in medicine. The distinguished speakers, all with some ties to Hamilton, came from around the country to take part in the workshop. The panelists each spoke about the personal journeys they took to careers in medicine and how they balance their lives working in such a demanding field. They represented a diverse group of backgrounds and professions; a common theme among them however was a passion for their profession and empathy for their patients and communities.

Coordinator of Health Professions Advising, Leslie North, put together the monumental event. Her goal as well as that of the panelists was "to discuss the art of medicine--the personal skills and sensitivities required to practice medicine." The value of volunteer activities, community service, studying abroad and summer jobs was emphasized in developing some of the intangible abilities that are most important to being a successful doctor. The speakers listed things like communication skills, patience and cultural sensitivity as some of these important intangible qualities.

The keynote speaker of the event was Laurence A. Savett '57, M.D., who is a retired physician and now lives in Minnesota where he advises premed students and lectures about the psycho-social aspects of practicing medicine. Dr. Savett is the author of a book titled The Human Side of Medicine as well as essays about doctor-patient relations and finding joy in medicine. Dr. Savett spoke compellingly about what a career in medicine takes and what the education process that develops good physicians. He also praised Leslie North for the work she does in advising students here at Hamilton and strongly encouraged the students in attendance to take advantage of the resources she provides early and often in their undergraduate careers here.

Some of the more interesting points of the symposium came from two recent alumni who are currently in medical school. Alexa Siddon '04, a student SUNY Upstate Medical School, spoke about meeting with the parents of baby who was ill and how she was able to receive their trust more than any specialist could because of her ability and willingness to talk to the parents and sympathize with their situation. Bridget Collins '02, a student at Yale University Medical School, spoke about being overwhelmed upon her arrival at the school and feeling like she did not possess the same intellect and maturity as the rest of her classmates. She then found out that the rest of her classmates were questioning themselves in the same way.

For any students interested in the health professions, Leslie North plans to sponsor a program on academic medicine this upcoming semester. She is also arranging a visit from the Cornell School of Veterinary Medicine's dean of admissions and an evening panel information session featuring nurse practitioners and physician assistants talking about their careers for the spring semester.

Like to watch Animal Planet? Write for Science & Technology!

mcrowson@hamilton.edu

Upcoming Science Seminars

Chemistry

November 17
Julian Tyson, Deptartment of Chemistry,
University of Massachusetts
All Chemistry Seminars are held in SC1066, Fridays at 3:00 p.m.

Computer Science

November 16, 4:15 p.m. Red Pit
Al Biles, Professor of Information Technology
Rochester Institute of Technology
"Evolutionary Music - The Al Biles Virtual Quintet"

Biology

November 27, 3:00 p.m. SC3040
Dr. Bryant Buchanon, Dept. of Biology, Utica College.
"Environmental and evolutionary factors influencing the expression of alternative reproductive tactics in treefrogs."

Have some science events you would like publicised ?
Send them to mcrowson@hamilton.edu

SPORTS

Women's indoor track has talent returning

by Kate Greenough '09
Sports Writer

As a new winter season begins, the girls of Hamilton's indoor track team are looking to sprint, jump, throw and vault their way to victory. Ellen Hull, in her fourteenth year as head coach, boasts a roster of well-distributed talent and significant depth in most events.

Although the team graduated a strong class of 2006, and several team members are abroad, the Continentals can look to a strong senior class for leadership and major point contributions in the upcoming meets. This year's seniors are Rachel Bennek, Sarah Downey, Lauren Steates, Danielle Massee, Laura Belden, Liz Debraggio and Jenny Orbaker.

Coach Hull excitedly notes that the team "has potential big points in every event group." She highlights Jess DeMichiel '08, Amanda Salisburg '08 and Jess Salwen '09 as key scorers in the pole vault. After a successful cross-country season, Hull looks to Liz Herring '08, sophomores Abby Jones and Gen Flanders and freshmen Ally Leighton and Katie Hails to contribute in the distance events.

The mid-distance, sprinting and jumping groups should be at the foundation of Hamilton's victories. Hull notes Bennek, Debraggio, Downey, Kristen Selden '09, Erica Dressler '09, Liz Wahl '10 and Alexandra Americanos '10 as members of a deep and talented sprinting team.

The jumping team is taking leaps and bounds towards victories in the Liberty League. Orbaker predicts the jumping team will take four out of the five top places in the League. Orbaker, a league all-star and the school record holder for the High Jump with 1.58 meters, rounds off a powerful jump team with Massee, Steates and Akilah Bond '09. Bond was elected Liberty League Rookie of the Year and shattered the school's triple jump record early in the season last year.

Last year, the Continentals landed second place in the Liberty League after a close competition with St. Lawrence. Head coach of SLU, Mike Howard, led the Saints to victory with a young and ambitious team. The Saints could be vulnerable this year as they cope with the loss of the graduating class of 2006; particularly Stacy Corliss and Kerry Banazek, two standout members.

"The meet that we will be working towards all season is definitely Liberty Leagues against St. Lawrence, RPI and Union. After our win last year in outdoor we are looking to win both indoor and outdoor championships this year," states an ambitious Orbaker. In the 2006 outdoor season, the Continentals earned a first place finish, barely beating the Saints. "St. Lawrence will pose the greatest threat, like always, but we can take them," she adds.

The Conts will host the Liberty League Championships on February 10. Coach Hull concludes that, "we will use our homefield advantage! We have a bigger and stronger team than last year."

With the championship in mind, the girls will continue training hard through their first meet, the Cornell Relays on December 2. With a deep, experienced and talented team, a newfound optimism and untapped underclassmen, the indoor track team is expected to do great things, and is back on track for another championship title.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Rachel Bennek '07 will lead the Women's Indoor team.

#1 Ohio State set to battle #2 Michigan in Columbus

by Sean Hopper '09
Sports Writer

It's finally here: Michigan vs. Ohio State.

It's the most anticipated college football non-bowl game in recent memory. Many believed before the season it would be a good game, and you can't forget the rivalry these guys have with each other; it's a battle every year. People expected big things from Ohio State this year, and they haven't been disappointed as the Buckeyes have an undefeated record at 11-0. Michigan burst onto the scene after a blowout victory against the mighty Fighting Irish of Notre Dame and like Ohio State, hasn't lost this season. Two undefeated Big-10 teams, ranked #1 and #2 nationally, playing for the right to play in the national championship game. This hype was all that college football analysts were talking about. The expectations coming into this game are incredible; you can just sense how good of a game it will be.

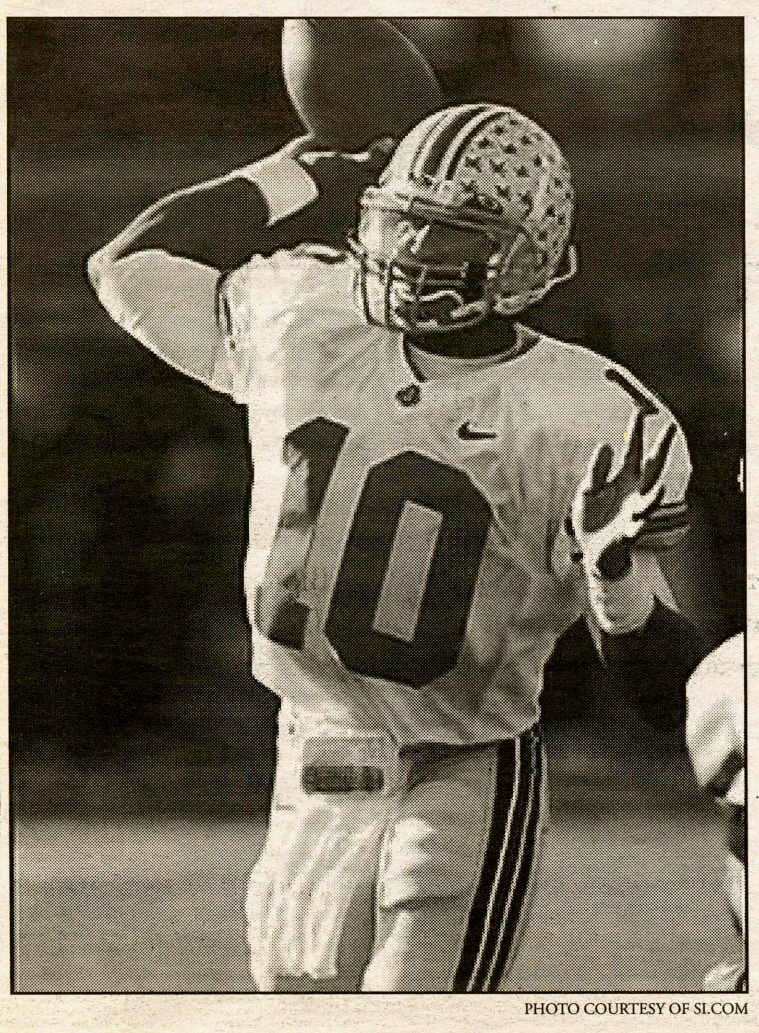

PHOTO COURTESY OF SI.COM

How would one choose the winner of this game? That's a tough one, a question I've been asking myself all week. I want you to find the weaknesses on both of these teams…good luck. Both teams possess immense amounts of talent, talent that will go to the NFL and many players will probably be first-round picks. Ohio State's offense has the probable Heisman winner Troy Smith, who can hurt you with his feet and his arm. Those who thought all Smith could do was run are sorely mistaken. He also has a great receiving core; you might know of Ted Ginn Jr. who is one of the fastest players in the nation. The Michigan defense better watch out for the deep ball. If you somehow contain Ginn, there is also Anthony Gonzalez, who can score any time.

People thought the OSU defense wouldn't be the same after losing AJ Hawk, Bobby Carpenter, Donte Whitner, Ashton Youbuty and others to the NFL. This is not the case; Ohio State gives up the least points per-game in the nation. Quinn Pitcock is there to clog the middle and Nagurski Trophy finalist James Laurinaitis leads the linebacker core. As if they need another advantage, the game is being played in Columbus at Ohio State's home field.

So does Michigan stand a chance? They stand more than a chance. I believe their defense is better than the Buckeyes. New defensive coordinator Alex English has made this defense scary. Michigan is fifth in the nation in points allowed, third in yards allowed and they only allow 29 rushing yards per-game. Don't expect OSU's Smith and Michael Pittman to be running much. Michigan's defense also has a Nagurski Trophy finalist in Leon Hall, possibly the best cornerback in the nation and sure top 10 pick in April's NFL Draft. Let's not forget Lamarr Woodley who is one of the best pass rushers in the nation and next to him is defensive tackle Alan Branch who should also be a top 10 pick.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEMICHIGANDAILY.COM

Michigan's Mike Hart went to Onondaga high school.

The Michigan linebacker core consists of Prescott Burgess and Butkus Trophy finalist Dave Harris. Michigan also has a great offensive attack led by quarterback Chad Henne and local Syracuse product, running back Mike "What's a fumble?" Hart. Hart is fourth in the nation in rushing yards and is hungry for a win after leaving last years OSU game with an injury. Both Hart and Henne possess veteran leadership, which is crucial during game of this caliber. Michigan also possesses a fantastic receiver in "Super" Mario Manningham. Manningham had been catching touchdown's left and right before he underwent surgery over a month ago on his knee. However, Manningham says he's healthy for the game and his presence will be greatly needed if Michigan expects to score through the air.

So who will win the big game? Well, after going back and forth, arguing with biased and non-biased fans, I finally came up with my decision. The game will be a defensive showdown: I expect special teams for both sides to play an important role in deciding the winner. The outcome will be 24-20 Michigan. Troy Smith will get one chance to win the game in the end and will come up short courtesy of the Wolverine defense.

SPORTS

Football drops season finale to Bates, 20-6

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Writer

A promising season for the Hamilton football team finally came to end this past Saturday with a disappointing loss to previously winless Bates College. The team might have been looking past Bates, which inevitably caused their demise. What was supposed to be a great ending point for the team, turned into the most disappointing performance from the Continentals this season.

On offense, the team couldn't hold onto the ball and committed six turnovers. The inefficiency of the passing attack made it very difficult to score points; at one point in the game, three consecutive drives ended in interceptions by Bates. This forced the defense to work on short rest, and it showed as Bates had its most impressive offensive performance of the season, scoring 20 points, while amassing 309 yards of total offense. The end result was a 20-6 loss for the Continentals in what was supposed to be the easiest game of the year. Although, this loss will hurt for the rest of the offseason, Hamilton does have a lot to look forward to in the future.

Next year will be crucial for this squad as only ten players will be graduating from a team that did show tremendous improvement from the previous few years. Head Coach Steve Stetson did a wonderful job getting his team to play with more enthusiasm and intelligence over the season and these skills allowed the Continentals to not only improve in the win column, but also form one of the most dominant defenses in the country. The defense finished tenth in the country for Division III football, allowing a stingy 10.2 points per game. It has been the focal point for Hamilton all season. It allowed the team to stay in all of its games even when the offense was struggling to put points on the board. With the addition of some talented freshman, this squad can realistically expect to win at least half of its games next year.

The offense this year wasn't able to capitalize on the great opportunities given to it by the defense. Neither the rushing nor passing attack was able to get going on a consistent enough basis to score touchdowns. Yet, the offensive line did improve throughout the year, which speaks volumes about the coaches and their ability to increase production out of the young and inexperienced unit. The offense will certainly need better production from its skill positions if the Continentals want to have a winning record. With improved play of the offensive line, this expectation isn't unjustifiable as the quarterbacks should have enough time to make smart decisions with the ball.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Joe Rinaldo '08 appears to be inbounds against Trinity; however, the officials ruled him out of the end-zone during Trinity's 13-0 win earlier this season.

Defensively, what else could the team have done? The defense turned in one of the most tremendous seasons for the Continentals in a long time. They stopped the potent offensive attacks of Williams and Trinity and were able to create a positive turnover ratio since the defense caused one more turnover than the Hamilton offense committed. This part of the team caused opponents to spent most of their game planning on offense in order to make an impact. Hamilton will only lose a couple of defensive starters and therefore, should be back and ready to go for next season looking to repeat the great success of this year's squad. Certainly credit has to be given to first-year defensive coordinator Mike Tracy, who was the mastermind behind this dominant unit.

Although the season is over for the Continentals, we can expect great things from the team in the future as the coaching staff has shown it won't stand for anything less. With the time spent in the off-season and summer workouts, the team should come back next year looking to become a powerful team to be reckoned with in the NESCAC.

Men's basketball opens season at home tonight

Team expects to win Liberty League; Hamilton will rely on seniors Jones, Ngobeni and Bernardi

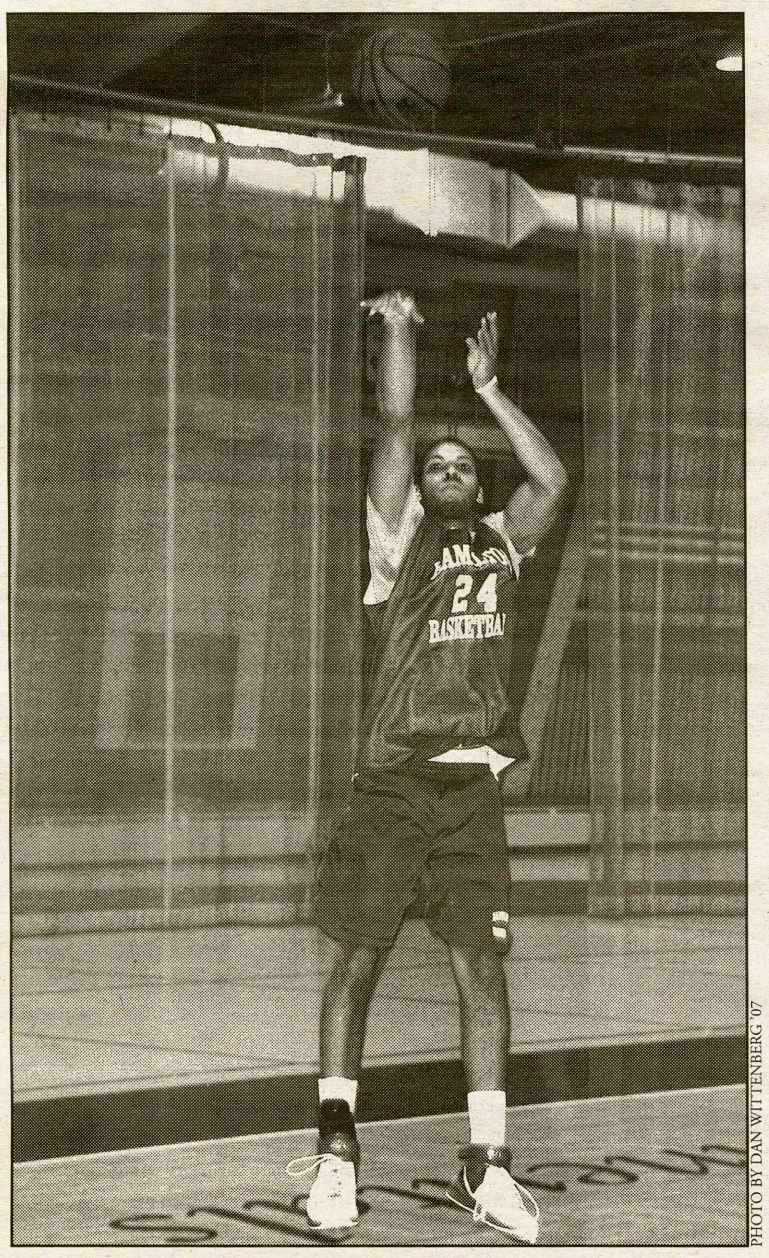

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Nick Jones '07 will be counted on this season by the Conts.

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Writer

After over 30 years of distinguished performance, the Hamilton men's basketball team is far from ready to slow down. This year's all-star team has talent, strength, experience and depth coming off the bench. They look to continue the tradition of winning seasons, as well as progress further into the post-season than ever before.

Last year the team went 23-5 and were conference champions. Though senior stars Staunton Peck '06, Tim Welchons '06, and guard Phil Valenti '06 will be missed, this year's team has a "good balance," according to Head Coach Tobin Anderson. With three phenomenal seniors to anchor and four talented freshmen joining the squad this year, the team is solid enough to continue the success achieved in recent years.

In just two years as head coach, Anderson first led the team to the Liberty League finals, and then the second round of the NCAA tournament. His Hamilton record stands at 38-16, and this year's team is certain to improve upon that.

The team does not start conference play until January when it faces Liberty League rival Hobart on Janurary 9 in Geneva. In between now and then, the Continentals play several non-league teams such as Utica, Wesleyan and Middlebury. They will also ring in the New Year in Florida , while playing in the Tampa Shoot-out. Anderson says the team will "use these early games to improve and get better. We're hoping to win most of them." The excitement of the players and coaching staff is shared by the campus at large, and the team shouldn't be lacking in support; Anderson reminds fans that "five of the first six games are home."

According to Anderson, Jeff Bernardi '07, Nick Jones '07, and Tsakani Ngobeni '07 make up "a really, really good senior class, a great senior class." Bernardi is a key player valued by Anderson for his "toughness and leadership." He believes that Jones and Ngobeni are not just the most valuable assets to Hamilton, but "two of the best players in the conference as well." Jones' outstanding Hamilton career includes being named 2004 Liberty League Co-Rookie of the year, a 2004 second team all-league player, and a first team all-league player in 2005 and 2006. In addition to these honors, he has contributed 411 rebounds, 136 assists, 38 blocks, 90 steals and 1,038 points. Ngobeni was also named a 2004 Liberty League Co-Rookie of the year, as well as a member of the 2004 All-Conference second team, the 2004 Hamilton College Men's Basketball Invitational All-Tournament Team, and the Liberty League second Team for 2005 and 2006. Ngobeni has tallied 563 rebounds, 105 assists, 78 blocks, 57 steals and 997 points for the Continentals. Anderson adds, "it will be important for both of them to have big years."

Incoming freshman David Alston, Joseph Manns, Timothy Shaw and James Simpson will eventually be integral contributors. Both Alston and Manns were chosen for All-Tournament teams as their high schools competed in their respective state championships, a clear indicator of the skill and leadership entering this season. Coach Anderson says, "the young guys will play, and will help us… the question is how soon."

One of the team goals this season is to win the conference. Anderson also emphasizes that "being able to host the conference tournament is very important." Anderson says that he also hopes "to go to the NCAAs, and to be able to go further in the tournament than last year."

The Continentals begin the season hosting the Tip-Off Tournament here at Hamilton. They take on Hartwick College today at 8 p.m. The winner of that contest plays in the championship tomorrow at 8 p.m. Anderson encourages students to come out for games, saying that the team plans to "get better every day, and keep on improving. We're excited, and we expect big things."

Club Sports; Rugby finishes

by Rob Dunn '07
Sports Contributor

The *Equestrian Team* competed at Cornell University this past weekend. Congrats to Hathaway Burden '10 and Jenn Anderson '10 on their first place wins. This weekend they will compete at SUNY Morrisville.

The *Ultimate Team* played in its last tournament of the semester this past weekend. The tournament took place at Green Mountain College in Vermont. Hamilton went 3-0 in the pool round, handing losses to Clarkson University, Southern Connecticut College, and St. Michael's College. After advancing out of the pool round, Hamilton was slated to play Rutland Area Flying Disc Club in the finals. After leading 9-2, Hamilton was stunned by a team that woundn't quit when Rutland came back to the tune of eight points. During the comeback, Hamilton only managed to add one more point to their total making game's score 10-9. Hamilton was able to regain composure behind a stunning effort by Joey Liotta '09 who reentered the game after having left injured several points earlier and connected on long downfield hucks to Nimit Patal '09 and Greg Esser '07. These crucial points took the game to a 13-11 victory for Hamilton. Hamilton finished the weekend 4-0 and took home the first place trophy. The Fall ultimate season quickly draws to a close, a season which Hamilton finished 12-6. Indoor practice will occur throughout the winter. Contact gesser@hamilton.edu for more information.

The *Men's and Women's Rugby Teams* traveled to Batavia this last weekend for the North East Regional Championships. The women's team was beaten the first day by Bentley, and lost a consolation match with New Paltz. They are now ranked fourth in the North East. Men's rugby beat Hartford in their first match, 27-15, and advanced to the final match with Bentley. Although the Exiles were the first team to score on Bentley this season, they were beaten and took second place in the North East. It has been a long and successful season for the rugby program at Hamilton. Tournament season is coming in the spring, so anybody interested in playing either men's or women's rugby should contact Jon Milgrom at jmilgrom, or Robin Peck at rpeck.

IM Update & Preview

by Leanne Pasquini '07
Sports Contributor

Football Champions:
Hot Peads

Indoor Soccer:
Play began Monday in the field house. There are a total of 9 teams in the A league, 14 teams in the B league. Competition will be hot this season as the senior boys varsity soccer team attempts to claim their championship title in the A league. Games are played in the Field House Monday through Friday 9:30-11:30 p.m. and weekends.

Hockey:
Eleven teams are currently signed up. Get your gear while you're home for Thanksgiving; games will start after break. Check out the action on the ice Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights beginning at 8:30 p.m. as well as Sunday afternoons.

Basketball:
Games begin this week in the Alumni Gym.

Volleyball:
There are currently nine teams signed up for the volleyball league. Deadline to sign up a team is Friday November 17. Games will begin after break.

Good luck to all participating teams!

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics.
Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well.

	Nick Rockwell *Spectator* Worst Sports Editor **74-44**	Eileen Starrett *Spectator* Best Sports Editor **65-53**	Emma Furman *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief **61-57**	Dan Wittenberg *Spectator* Photography Editor **62-56**	Matt Pitarresi Junior Football co-captain
NFL					
Pittsburgh @ Cleveland, 11/18	Pittsburgh	Cleveland	Cleveland	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh
Chicago @ NY Jets, 11/18	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago
San Diego @ Denver, 11/18	Denver	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego
St. Louis @ Carolina, 11/18	Carolina	St. Louis	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
NY Giants @ Jacksonville, 11/19	Giants	Giants	Giants	Giants	Jacksonville
NCAA Football					
#2 Michigan @ #1 Ohio State	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Michigan
#17 California @ #4 USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
#19 VA Tech @ #14 Wake Forest	VA Tech	VA Tech	Wake Forest	Wake Forest	Wake Forest
#21 Maryland @ #20 BC	BC	Maryland	BC	BC	Maryland
NHL					
New Jersey @ Toronto, 11/18	Toronto	New Jersey	Toronto	New Jersey	Toronto
Atlanta @ Montreal, 11/18	Montreal	Montreal	Montreal	Montreal	Atlanta

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

November 17, 2006

Swimming & Diving hosts first meet on Saturday

by Mallory Reed '10
Sports Writer

Hamilton College Men's and Women's Swim Coach T.J Davis set the tone of the 2006-2007 swim season with words borrowed from Henry David Thoreau: "If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with success unexpected in common hours."

With the philosophy of "unwavering optimism" combined with an admirable individual and team work ethic, the Hamilton Women's Swim Team is on the brink of what is sure to be a stellar season. Coach Davis is joined by assistant coaches Stephanie Karl, David Thompson and diving coach James Ray. The team is fairly large this year with a balance of returning swimmers and incoming first-years. Coach Davis said, "On the women's side we've carried between 20 and 30 swimmers." He added, "We can take 20 women to NESCACs but up until then we will use the entire roster for dual meets."

Senior captains for the 2006-2007 season are freestyler Naomi Krakower, Sam Pitter (2003 Medley Relay Honorable Mention NCAA All-American) in the freestyle and butterfly events, and Eileen Starrett in freestyle, butterfly and backstroke. Other seniors include Bevin Kenny (2004 honorable mention 200 and 400 Medley Relay NCAA All-American) in backstroke and freestyle, Christine Mays in the butterfly and freestyle events and freestyler Jill Pugach.

Talented juniors joining the 2006-2007 Women's Swim Team include, breaststroker Amy Brown and freestylers Hannah Case, Wendy Doster and Olivia Reynolds. Allison Currie will contribute to the backstroke and freestyle events and Ashley DeMaio-Zacharek will compete in the butterfly and freestyle.

This year's team boasts many speedy sophomores such as Eve Stevens, who Coach Davis dubbed "a great talent in the breaststroke events." Freestylers are Roya Stephens and Deanna Edwards. Caitlin Welks will contribute to the freestyle and butterfly events, Maura Donovan will swim freestyle and IM, and Stephanie Capizzi will lend her talents in the breastroke and IM.

Returning sophomore Beth Beaury is the team's lone diver who according to Davis, "Is going to do great things for us this year."

New first-year swimmers are led by Whitney Rosenbaum who Coach Davis said, "is going to make a big difference in the fly and free events as well as the medley relays." Freestylers include Sarah Cryer, Carolyn Meyer, Jennifer Whitman, and January admits Laura Holt and Emma McCarthy. Danielle Fortier is set to contribute in the backstroke events, while Chessie Crane will be versatile in breastroke, IM and butterfly.

Coach Davis said, "I have a bigger vision for the team to have the ability to come together and make the sum better than the parts." He added, "We've always been a team oriented group that has done big things with relays. The synergy of the relay defines the team we want to be."

Davis also emphasizes the necessary balance between swimming and school. He said, "we want to be great in the pool and in the classroom." A rigorous practice and meet schedule ensures that Hamilton swimmers must be diligent in staying on top of schoolwork. Practices involve three 6 a.m. practices per week and afternoon practice on every weekday except Wednesday. Davis said this afternoon off is a time for student swimmers to schedule labs and get caught up on work.

Weekends are reserved for meets as Davis revealed, "Our objective is to swim good teams on the weekends." Hamilton is a member of both the NESCAC and Liberty League, but swims against teams outside of these leagues as well. The Women's Swim Team will compete in the Liberty League Championships on December 1 and 2 at the University of Rochester but will focus their training on the NESCAC Championships February 16- 18 at Williams College. Coach Davis said, "Our training is going to reflect the NECAC Conference Championships," and will include "high-volume training in Florida between semesters."

After a productive preseason, the Hamilton Women's Swim team will kick-off their season this Saturday, November 18, in Bristol Pool at 12 p.m. Coach Davis said, "Our kick-off is huge against the perennially great powers Hartwick, Ithaca and SUNY Geneseo." Hamilton has a disadvantage in this inter-conference battle in being the only NESCAC member as other schools have already had three or four meets. However, Coach Davis said, "We have traditionally done very well at this meet." Look for the Continentals to shine at home this weekend.

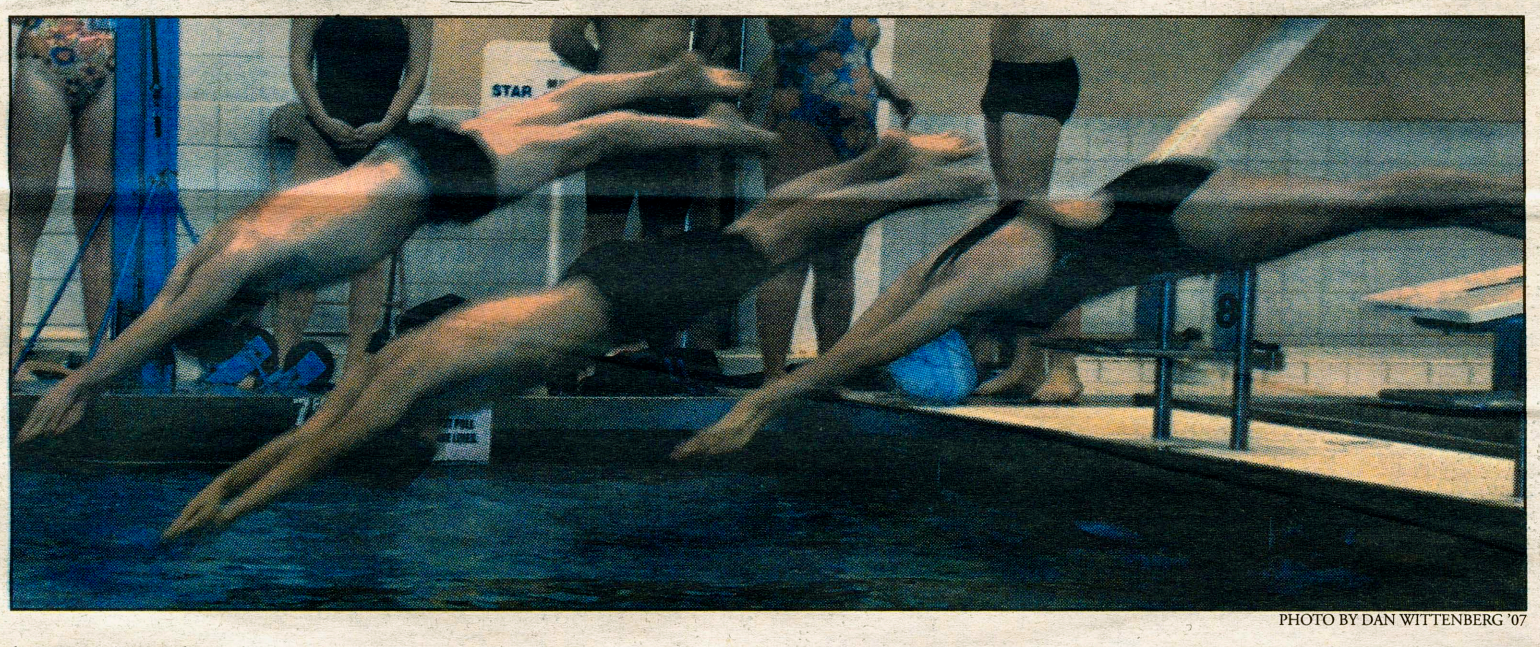

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Ezra Rosenberg '10
Sports Writer

The Men's Swimming Team is getting ready to dive head first into the 2006-2007 season with their first meet this Saturday.

A talented group of New York schools will be in the water when Ithaca, Hartwick, and SUNY Geneseo meet the Continentals for a competitive dual meet. These schools are among the finest in their respective conferences. Ithaca and Hartwick represent the Empire Eight, and Geneseo is at the top of the State University of New York Conference.

Head Coach T.J. Davis described this hyped, first meet as a great opportunity for competition because, says Davis, "we have a limited opportunity to swim in meets, so we really want to take advantage." Hamilton in accordance with NESCAC regulations does not begin their season until November 1, whereas the competition the team will face on Saturday has been swimming since September.

The Hamilton swimmers are excited to race and will be ready to go because of the strenuous work and long hours that they have put in to get to this point. Hamilton swimming puts an emphasis on working hard because it has been proven to pay off. After multiple 6 a.m. practices, Coach Davis expresses that the swimmers have put in their work and now they want to show it off.

With the addition of eight freshmen, this year's team expands and should exhibit a good balance in multiple senses. The "A" 400 Medley Relay will include two freshmen. The team on the whole is almost one-to-one freshmen to upperclassmen. Freshmen will help add depth in the stroke events as well. The freshmen add a lot of balance to the team; an aspect Coach Davis emphasized will have a large impact this season.

Senior Co-Captain Tim Kearney who swims backstroke and freestyle also recognizes the balance that the Continentals have, saying, "I am confident that we will do better than last year because of the talented incoming freshmen class."

With talented new first-years to go with experienced upper-class leadership forging the way, this year's team has a great make up. In addition to Kearney, the upperclassmen include returning co-captains Mark Hodges '07 and Christian Warner '07. These captains are joined by Nate Emmons '07, Todd Johnson '08 and Tim Campany '08. Look for the upperclassmen on the squad to provide strong leadership this season.

This year's team also features two honorable mention All-Americans from last year in Warner and Johnson. Swimming is generally considered an individual sport, but these strong performers boost the program because of a large emphasis on relays. The relays personify exactly what Hamilton swimming is trying to accomplish in a team sense. It is considered an honor to be on a relay team, because it represents the strong tradition of Hamilton swimming.

Warner and Johnson also have the only NCAA Championship experience on the team. Warner attended the 2005 NCAA Championship in Michigan and Johnson qualified last year for the Championship held in Minnesota. Johnson is also striving to achieve another grand feat: this season he will be working toward qualifying for the 2008 Olympics for Jamaica in he so chooses.

This weekend the Continentals will face three talented teams. The team will rely upon the leadership of their upperclassmen, a strong freshman class and a talented sophomore class. The sophomore class is comprised of four talented swimmers: Jason Brown, Steve Frederick, Alex Paridon and Jake Schoeneck. Look for the team to come together Saturday.

Saturday is the first chance for the Men's Swimming team to exhibit all of their hard work over the past two and a half weeks. Their dedication deserves support and will undoubtedly be fun to watch. Tomorrow's meet begins at 12 p.m. and ought to last through the afternoon. The swim team traditionally has enjoyed a large amount of support, so keep the Hamilton swimming tradition alive by packing the stands. Get our Hamilton swimmers going in their very first meet of the season.

This weekend in Hamilton Athletics:

Friday 11/17:
W Bask @ NCC Tourney
M Bask host Tip-Off Tourney
W Hockey v. SUNY Cortland
M Hockey @ Trinity

Saturday 11/18:
Swim&Dive (M&W) v. Ithaca, Hartwick & Geneseo
W Hockey @ SUNY Cortland
M Hockey @ Wesleyan
Squash (M&W) host Liberty Leagues
W Bask @ NCC Tourney
M Bask host Tip-Off Tourney

Sunday 11/19:
Squash (M&W) host Liberty Leagues

Go Blue!